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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington 25, D. C.

August 2, 1944

To: Chairmen of Regional Committees on Post-war Programs, Regional Activity Leaders, and Others Concerned with Post-war Programs for Agriculture

From: R. L. Webster, National Activity Leader on Information and Educational Services

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS ON POST-WAR PROGRAMS

PRELIMINARY STATE REPORTS on post-war programs have been summarized in a 71-page memorandum which has been distributed to all members of regional committees on post-war programs.

SEVERAL OF THE INTERBUREAU working groups are well along with preparation of copy on National post-war statements.

OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT have met with the Land-Grant College Committee on Post-war Planning with a view to promoting a better mutual understanding on post-war aims and action.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERBUREAU COMMITTEE have met with farm organization leaders again for a mutual exchange of information on progress on post-war problems.

OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT AND OF THE VETERAN'S BUREAU are working on procedures for administering Title III, Section 502 of the G. I. Bill of Rights.

COPY FOR A DISCUSSION GUIDE "When Joe Comes Home", has gone to the printer. This guide is centered on the question: "What is your community doing to help ex-servicemen and women get adjusted back into civil life".

Summary of State Reports.

The Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs has issued a 71-page mimeographed memorandum, to all members of Regional Committees, reviewing the preliminary State reports on post-war programs. The Committee's memo says in part: "At the request of the Secretary, every agency and bureau in the Department and nearly all of the offices of the War Food Administration have made an analysis of the reports. This memorandum of comments to the Regional Committees is based upon these analyses. The information contained in the State reports is being used in many ways in the formulation of national policy. It is proving

to be helpful to Department agencies. Material in the reports has been made available to certain Federal agencies and also has been used in testimony before Congressional Committees." A limited number of copies of this memo are available upon request to the USDA Office of Information.

National Post-war Statements.

During the past few weeks conferences have been held with some of the National Activity Leaders to determine the status of work being done by the various Interbureau Working Groups on National post-war statements. The purpose of these conferences is to determine what might advisably be issued in the way of more popular informational or educational materials based on the national statements, the timing of such materials, and the character of them. Among working groups with whose leaders discussions have been held are those dealing with: Rural Electrification, Social Security for Farm People, International Trade Relationships, Land Tenure, and Opportunities for Settlers on Land After the War. The other working groups are being contacted as rapidly as possible.

Meeting With Land-Grant College Association Committee on Post-war Agricultural Policy.

At the invitation of Chairman Noble Clark of the Land-Grant College Association Committee on Post-war Agricultural Policy, Department officials including H. R. Tolley, M. L. Wilson, Seth Sims, Ray Smith and Fred Waugh met with that Committee on June 15 and 16 at Janesville, Wisconsin. Land-Grant College people present, in addition to Chairman Noble Clark were Director Hutcheson of Virginia, Director Ramsower of Ohio, Professor Aull of South Carolina, Professor Efferson of Louisiana, Professor Trowbridge of Missouri, Dean Myers of Cornell University, Dr. Renne of Montana, Director Carrigan of Vermont, Dr. Margaret Reid of Iowa, Dean Marie Dye of Michigan, Dean Clyde of Utah, Dr. Pierre of Iowa, Dr. Throckmorton of Kansas, Dean Schmitz of Minnesota, L. A. Salter of Wisconsin, Dr. H. R. Wellman, University of California, and Dr. O. B. Jesness, University of Minnesota. Gladwin E. Young, Chairman of the Midwest Committee on Post-war Programs also attended.

A considerable part of the meeting was devoted to a review of the work of the Washington Interbureau Committee and of the progress made to date by seven Land-Grant College Association subcommittees dealing with the following subjects: Agriculture in Relation to the General Economy; Production Adjustments in Agriculture; Price Policy; Land Tenure Policy; Conservation of Resources; Family Living; and Farmer Participation in Public Policy. The Land-Grant College Association Committee plans to have a report on these subjects by late October for presentation to the Land-Grant College Association.

"What Peace Can Mean to American Farmers".

Bushrod Allin and Jim Maddox, both of the BAE, attended a meeting of the Midwest Regional Committee on Post-War Programs on July 24 and 25 and discussed a new working draft of the proposed statement "What Peace Can Mean to American Farmers." This is the material which was discussed Tuesday morning of the May conference on Post-War Programs attended by Regional Chairmen. Dr. Allin and Mr. Maddox are scheduled to discuss the same material at a meeting of the Southeast Committee on Post-War Programs at Atlanta, Georgia, on August 3.

Conferences on Small Business.

The Senate Small Business Committee, of which Senator James E. Murray of Montana is chairman, is holding a series of conferences with representatives of public agencies and of industry and business in several of the far western states to obtain an integrated view of the problems of post-war reconversion and planning. The committee's schedule is as follows: July 24 and 25 at Kalispell, Montana; July 26 and 27 at Seattle, Washington; July 28 at Portland, Oregon; July 31 and August 1 in the San Francisco Bay Region; August 2 and 3 at Los Angeles, California; and August 4 at San Diego, California.

State and local planning boards, business and labor organizations, and various smaller business representatives were asked to attend these conferences and present their views. Also, various Government Departments including Interior, Agriculture, The War Manpower Commission, War Production Board, Defense Plant Corporation, and the Smaller War Plants Corporation, were invited to participate in these meetings looking toward the creation of an over-all background into which can be fitted the plans of State and local planning organizations. Consideration is being given to the possibility of publishing the Committee's findings in monograph form as supplements to the published record of the conferences. We will keep you informed on these as they appear.

Comments on Rural Housing Problems.

These comments of seven mimeographed pages of facts and figures were prepared by the Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs at the request of Senator Robert A. Taft, Chairman of the Sub-committee on Housing and Urban Redevelopment of the Senate Special Committee on Post-war Economic Policy and Planning (the George Committee). This statement, in discussing rural housing problems, classifies housing needs of farm families in four major groups: (1) Farm units with adequate resources capable of providing the operator with effective full-time employment on the farm; (2) farm units not in themselves adequate but so situated that farm employment combined with off-farm employment is adequate; (3) inadequate farm units occupied by retired farm families; and (4) other inadequate units. This is a preliminary statement but copies are available if you want them.

Farmers View the Post-war World.

This is the title of a study for administrative use made recently by BAE's Division of Program Surveys. It is based on personal interviews with 293 farms in the Southeast, 310 in the Corn Belt, and 150 in the Central Valley of California.

Questions upon which these farmers were interviewed were Economic Conditions Expected After the War; Unemployment and Ways of Handling It; Resettlement of Returning Soldiers; Price Regulation in the Post-war Period; Government Regulation of Farm Production; Sending Food to Europe After the War; Tariffs and International Trade; and Attitude Patterns Concerning Government Activity. In its present form this lengthy report has much detailed and semi-confidential matter. Furthermore, in view of paper shortages and revised mailing regulations, is too bulky for general distribution. A condensation is under way, however, copies of which will we hope be available for post-war workers a little later.

A New Report from New Mexico.

We have received a copy of a "Summary of Post-War Agricultural Programs for New Mexico (A Preliminary Report) - What Kind of a Post-War Agriculture is Desired?, July 1944" prepared by the New Mexico Extension Service and the New Mexico Agricultural Experiment Station. This is a revision of the Preliminary State Report. The first chapter contains a rewrite of the national statement "What Post-War Policies for Agriculture?" It is our understanding that this publication has been sent to all State and County Agricultural Planning Committeemen. Mr. A. B. Fite, Director of Extension and Chairman of the State Agricultural Planning Committee, among other things, said the following in a memorandum to County and State Planning Committee members:

"In presenting the enclosed summary of the efforts to date of Post-War Agricultural Planning for New Mexico, it is hoped that the material will stimulate more thinking on the subject and serve as a basis for more active planning for a sound post-war agriculture...There are, at present, many kinds of post-war planning committees functioning in the state, several of which include agriculture. The State Agricultural Planning Committee will attempt to coordinate the agricultural phase of the work of all these committees by assembling the material and combining it into one unified program for action. Let us combine our planning efforts to maintain a sound prosperous agriculture for our boys as they return from the war."

Disposal of Surplus War Materiel.

Considerable interest has been expressed lately in the methods that might be used for the disposal of surplus war materials. For your information on this subject we quote from a talk made by James F. Byrnes on June 19 before an Extension Service group: "Steps are being taken by Government to put surplus machinery into the hands of the farmer. Some farmers have been led to believe that they will not be permitted to buy this machinery at a fair price. Under a program which has just been formulated, they will pay what the Government receives plus a reasonable charge for handling.

"For example, there are now about 10,000 Army trucks ready for disposal. The Procurement Officer of the Treasury who handles the disposition of all surplus war materials of this kind, is cooperating with the WFA in getting the bulk of these trucks into farm use. The plan is as follows:

(1) State AAA committees obtain information from Treasury Procurement offices on the number and types of trucks that might reasonably be available to the State. (2) On this information, they notify county AAA committees of the probable number and types of trucks that might be available for each county. (3) The County Committees give farmers a letter certifying need for a truck to haul essential crops. (4) The farmers present these letters to truck dealers. (5) The dealers contact the regional Procurement Office, present the AAA letters and buy the trucks. (6) Dealers pay Procurement ceiling price, and sell the trucks to farmers at OPA ceiling prices for used trucks. If necessary the dealer reconditions the trucks. The maximum dealer margin over purchase price and repairs is approximately 17 percent. Prices and margins are controlled by Government regulations.

"This general plan went into effect only this month. The merits of the plan at this stage of development are that it assures prompt disposal, chiefly to farm use, at controlled prices.

"Arrangements are being worked out with Treasury Procurement for the disposal of surplus agricultural machinery in Army depots, Navy yards, etc. Procurement will notify the State AAA (in the State where the equipment is located) of the types and amounts of machinery available. County committees will give farmers letters certifying need, and letters will go to dealers and then to the regional Procurement office. The procedure under consideration is virtually the same as in the case of surplus trucks.

"The plan is to have dealers pay procurement ceiling prices and resell at OPA ceiling prices.

"Much has been said about surplus jeeps. Only a few hundred have been disposed of by the Army. Several thousand nonstandard types, minus repair parts and in bad condition, apparently are not in active use by the Army. Some of these are being torn down for repair parts by the Army. Disposal of jeeps for farm use does not appear practicable for some time to come, but when they do become available steps will be taken to release them to farmers as needs may justify.

"WFA has proposed that miscellaneous used items be sold through county farm auctions. Procurement is considering this as the most practicable method suggested to them, and the auction method will be used experimentally in the near future."

Post-war Analysis Charts.

The State Colleges of Kansas and Montana have prepared analysis sheets as to what is ahead in the agriculture of these two states. Elmer Starch, Chairman of the Great Plains Post-war Committee, refers to them as "temperature charts" because they show what is happening to agriculture now and provide a basis upon which to reason out what treatment may be required in the early stages of peacetime. Consideration is being given to the possibility of making copies of these charts available to all regions should they wish to have similar charts prepared for their respective States.

USDA Club Discussions on Post-war Subjects.

In an effort to determine what post-war subjects are of greatest interest to USDA Clubs in specific areas of the country, the Department's Office of Personnel recently sent to all USDA Club presidents a form on which Club members were asked to indicate their preference of post-war topics for discussion. Upon return of these forms to the USDA Office of Personnel, they will be analyzed and serve as a basis for the preparation of "tailor made" discussion materials. A copy of this form is enclosed and we would be glad to have you fill it out and return it to us for additional indication of interest in post-war subjects.

An instance of constructive USDA Club post-war work is that of the Spokane USDA Club. This club in cooperation with officers in charge of the educational program at Baxter General Hospital at Spokane has, during the past 6 months, been giving lectures on agricultural subject to convalescent Army veterans. Included among Department agencies participating in this activity are Extension, WFA, SCS, FCA, and the Office of Distribution. Some of the subjects lectured

on are "Making a Place for Yourself in Agriculture", "Importance of Insect and Disease Control to Agriculture", "Managing Farm and Other Business Enterprises", and "The Wise Use of Borrowed Money". Further details of this plan may be obtained from E. J. Bell, Jr., Assistant to the General Agent, FCA of Spokane.

"When Joe Comes Home".

Copy for a discussion guide with this caption has just gone to the printer. It is intended for use by local community groups in deciding what to do right now in every community to help ex-service men and women to get adjusted back into civilian life. It emphasizes the problems involved in connection with veterans who have suffered psychological upsets or who are physically handicapped. For a good article on this subject see the editorial on "Friends of the Wounded", in the May 15 issue of LIFE Magazine.

Veterans' Preference in Federal Employment.

This is Public Law 359, approved June 27, 1944, which gives honorably discharged veterans, their widows, and wives of disabled veterans who themselves are not qualified to work, preference in employment where Federal funds are disbursed, including employment in classified and unclassified civil-service positions, and in temporary or emergency agencies. If you have special need for a copy of this document, let us know.

Miscellaneous

Dr. Gordon R. Salmond of the Forest Service has been designated Chairman of the Appalachian Regional Committee on Post-War Programs to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. R. E. McArdle whose new duties with the Forest Service make it impossible for him to continue as Regional Chairman. Mr. Salmond is located in Washington, D. C., Room 4229, South Building.

Dr. Esther F. Phipard of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics has replaced Dr. Helen R. Jeter as National Activity Leader on Nutrition. Dr. Jeter, however, will continue as a member of the Interbureau Committee.

Mr. Thomas S. Buie, Chairman of the Southeast Committee on Post-War Programs has reported that the Georgia State group has prepared a summary of their preliminary State report and that copies of this are being distributed to local workers throughout the State.

Dr. Ezekiel attended the International Monetary Conference at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, which was held from July 1 to July 22, as the representative of the Department of Agriculture.

Check List of Post-war Press Releases.

Several press releases have been issued during the past few weeks that are of special interest to everyone working on post-war programs. These include: Announcement July 11 (OWI 3385) by Surplus War Property Administrator Clayton that, generally, the disposal of all surplus Army and Navy real estate other than industrial real estate had been assigned to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. The expressed intention is that agricultural land will be disposed of in family-sized farms. For further details on this see also OWI

release 3420 dated July 23. . . The War Manpower Commission in a release dated July 11 (PM-4625) stated that local offices of the U. S. Employment Service will provide discharged service men and women with identification cards establishing their status as veterans to simplify procedures for veterans in search of work. . .Within three weeks after the approval of the G. I. Bill of Rights more than 4,000 inquiries about it had been received from veterans of the present war, according to Brigadier General Frank T. Hines (OWI-3416). More than 1,000 applications had been made for the educational benefits as shown by reports from 51 Veterans Administration field stations in all the States. See also OWI release 3361 concerning the Veterans Administration proposal to the Federal Board of Hospitalization that building projects for 16,000 additional veteran's hospital beds to be constructed in 20 different states. This building project is the largest ever requested by the Veterans Administratic and is also made possible by the G. I. Bill.

Post-war Literature References

Farms for Soldiers and War Workers, by Hugh H. Wooten and Gus Larson of BAE, in the June issue of The Agricultural Situation, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, USDA.

Foreign Trade After the War, by August Maffry and Hal B. Lary, Chief and Assistant Chief, respectively, of the Internation Economics and Statistics Unit, U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce (Washington October 1943. 22 pages. Economic Series No. 28.

Food and Post-war Europe: How Much and What?, by M. K. Bennett, Executive Director of the Food Research Institute, Stanford University, California, March 1944. 100 pages. War and Peace Pamphlet No. 5.

Jobs After the War, by E. A. Goldenweiser and Everett E. Hagen, on the staff of the Federal Reserve System. Federal Reserve Bulletin (Washington), May 1944, Volume 30, Number 5, pages 424-431.

Post-war Planning in the United States 3, (An organization directory), the third in a series of publications put out by The Twentieth Century Fund, 330 West Forty-second Street, New York.

Need for Medical-Care Insurance, Bureau Memorandum Number 57, Federal Security Agency, Social Security Board, Bureau of Research and Statistics, Washington, 25, D. C., April 1944.

Rural Electrification - A Post-war Market Forecast, Prepared for Country Gentlemen by Research Department, the Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia, 5, Pennsylvania.

The Winning Plans in the Pabst Post-war Employment Awards, Pabst Brewing Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (Mordecai Ezekiel, National Activity Leader on Agricultural-Industrial Relations and Industry in Rural Areas, received one of the awards.)

FAN MAIL

Space prevents much of this, but we do wish to quote a few lines from "fan mail" received as a result of our July 3 post-war letter.

"The things we want most in the way of information on post-war activities are just about in the same order in which they appear in the July 3 release. . .I was definitely brought up to date by your letter."--E. A. Starch, Chairman of the Great Plains Post-war Committee.

"At this time I would like to compliment the Washington group working on information and educational services for the splendid summarization of current events pertaining to our post-war planning submitted in your letter of July 3."--J. K. Brandeberry, Secretary, California-Nevada Committee on Post-war Programs.

These are inspiring words but we are anxious to get further specific suggestions. Let us know how we can make this service more valuable to you.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington 25, D.C.

September 1, 1944

To: Chairmen of Regional Committees on Post-war Programs, Regional Activity Leaders, and Others Concerned with Post-war Programs for Agriculture

From: R. L. Webster, National Activity Leader on Information and Educational Services

HIGHLIGHTS ON POST-WAR ACTIVITIES

SECRETARY WICKARD AND WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATOR JONES PRESENTED TESTIMONY August 23 and August 25, respectively, before the House Special Committee on Post-war Economic Policy and Planning. In addition, 12 members of the Interbureau Committee submitted statements going into more detail on some of the points covered by the Secretary.

SOLICITOR ROBERT H. SHIELDS, of the USDA and WFA, outlines provisions relating to price supports for agricultural commodities in the immediate future in the post-war period.

THE UTILIZATION OF GOVERNMENT SYNTHETIC AMMONIA PLANTS FOR FERTILIZER PRODUCTION is the title of a statement to be issued soon by the Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs.

SEVERAL INFORMATIONAL STATEMENTS on foreign trade are scheduled to be out soon.

CONFERENCE ON REHABILITATION OF WAR-TORN COUNTRIES planned by Extension Service and Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Hearings on Agricultural Post-war Problems.

At a hearing of the House Special Committee on Post-war Economic Policy and Planning held August 23, Secretary Wickard clearly presented his views regarding the objectives for agriculture after the war. After reviewing conditions pertinent to the welfare of the Nation as a whole, the Secretary discussed briefly what he believed to be the dominant aims for agriculture itself under these headings: (1) Full production at maximum efficiency; (2) Equal living standards for farm and city families; (3) Equal protection for all types of farmers; (4) Soil conservation and improvement; (5) Conservation and improvement of forest resources; (6) Encouragement of the family type farm; (7) Retirement of submarginal land and reclamation and cultivation of potentially good farm land; and (8) Improvements in the marketing of farm products.

War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, in presenting testimony before this same Committee on August 25, particularly stressed two points: (1) The interdependence of agriculture and industry, and (2) Conservation and development of our natural resources. With reference to natural resources, the Administrator mentioned soil conservation first. . ."but starting with the soil," he said, "other developments

naturally flow from and become part and parcel of the undertaking. These include the proper use of water; the construction of large and small dams; rural electrification; decentralized industrial development; highways and other forms of transportation; and individual home ownership".

In addition to the testimony presented orally by Secretary Wickard and War Food Administrator Jones, twelve members of the Interbureau Committee submitted statements going into more detail on some of the points covered by the Secretary. The subject of these 12 statements and persons submitting them are: Agriculture and Full Employment, by Bushrod Allin; Improvements in Farm Technology and Effects on Farm Output, by Sherman Johnson; Post-war Problems in Marketing Farm Products, by F. L. Thomsen; Agriculture Price Policy in the Post-war Period, by Oris V. Wells; Forest Conservation and Development, by Raymond E. Marsh; Soil and Water Conservation, by Melville H. Cohee; Rural Electrification, by James Salisbury, Jr.; Rural Housing, by John M. Brewster; Rural Health, by F. D. Mott; Extension of Social Security Programs to Farm People, by Carl C. Taylor; Farming Opportunities to Veterans and War Workers, by H. H. Wooten; and Different Types of Farmers Require Different Types of Programs, by F. F. Elliott. Mimeographed copies of all this testimony will be available in a few days.

Fertilizer Production After the War.

At the present time there are nine publicly owned synthetic ammonia plants built by the Federal Government to produce nitrogen for use in explosives. What should be done with these plants when the war is over is a question to which the answer is day by day becoming more timely. A statement bearing on this question has been prepared by Frank Parker and the members of his Working Group on Utilization of Government Chemical Plants for Manufacture of Fertilizer. It is scheduled for release in a few days by the Interbureau Committee. If you want a copy of this statement, drop us a line.

Agriculture and Foreign Trade.

The significance of trade with other countries after the war is high on the list of subjects of current interest to farmers. Several pieces of material on this subject are being or have already been prepared for general distribution. One, a preliminary draft of which is ready for Interbureau Committee and field review, is entitled "A Post-war Foreign Trade Program for United States Agriculture". This is intended for a national statement on the subject and has been prepared by the Working Group on International Trade Relations.

Copy for a discussion guide "Buying and Selling Farm Products Abroad" has gone to the printer and should be out around the first of October. Copy for the popular pamphlet "International Trade Increases Demand for Farm Products Abroad", which has already been reviewed in the field by post-war program committees, is scheduled to go to the printer this week. The September issue of Foreign Agriculture, which is put out by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, will carry an article by OFAR Director Leslie A. Wheeler entitled "Trends in Foreign Agricultural Policies". This publication will come off the press about September 10. A limited number of copies are available upon request.

Highlights of Midwest Committee Meeting.

The Midwest Committee on Post-war Programs met at Milwaukee on July 24 and 25 at which time representatives from the various states in the Region reported on matters that may be of general interest:

H. A. Berg reported that in Michigan an enabling act had been passed within the last year, setting up a State Planning Commission with $5,000,000 as a fund to be matched by units of government within the State for use in developing a shelf of useful post-war work. . .The Indiana State report on post-war policies and programs, prepared last February, has been revised and is being published as a State report, according to Lynn Robertson. . . O. R. Johnson reporting for Missouri said a bulletin on problems of land settlement is in the process of publication. . . J. I. Falconer reported that some of the county agents in Ohio have suggested that a program comparable to the county land-use planning program be revived to deal with post-war problems. . . In Illinois A. T. Anderson has been assigned by the University of Illinois to assist in a statewide survey to help communities determine their ability and capacity to absorb workers in agriculture and related work . . . In Minnesota George Pond said meetings were currently being held in all counties of the State to set up advisory committees to help place veterans. He also said that background information was being prepared to help these committees do their job. Reports from all states indicated that committees were being set up to handle soldier settlement.

Northeast Committee Meeting Coming Up.

Chairman W. S. Middaugh reports that a meeting of the Northeast Committee on Post-war Programs will be held in New York City on September 14. Among items for consideration will be long-time production adjustments, and the questions: Can post-war demand for agricultural products absorb the expanded volume of agricultural products that farmers can continue to produce after the war? Sherman Johnson and Bushrod Allin of BAE are scheduled to attend to discuss these two subjects.

Conference on Rehabilitation of War-torn Countries.

To consider possibilities for the most effective use of agricultural extension methods in the rural rehabilitation of war-torn areas, a conference will be held in Washington, D. C., September 19 to 22, 1944. The conference has been called jointly by the Extension Service and the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The purpose is to review extension methods and organization in the various countries and to consider recommendations of extension methods and principles that will insure the most efficient use of emergency supplies and services during the period of rehabilitation and reconstruction in stricken areas, and hasten return to normal agricultural production. It is not a policy-forming conference and the persons asked to participate have been invited because of their personal knowledge of, and interest in, the areas concerned and not as official representative of any agency.

In addition to representation by agricultural authorities from the Department and various state agencies, invitations have been sent to individuals within such agencies as UNRRA, FEA, the Interim Food Commission, and to agricultural attaches of governments represented in Washington. Fact sheets are now being prepared on each region and county for use by the working committees during the conference.

A Statement on Price Supports.

On August 16, Solicitor Robert H. Shields spoke to the regional attorneys of WFA and the USDA at Denver on Federal statutory provisions relating to price supports for agricultural commodities. This statement should be of interest to persons working on certain phases of post-war programs because it states the effect of existing law, including the Steagall amendment, which provides for price supports for 2 years after the war. Copies of this 21-page statement will be supplied upon request.

Survey on Dehydrated Foods.

Between April 17 and May 31, 1944, a survey of Chicago housewives was conducted by BAE to obtain an indication of the probable domestic market for dehydrated foods in the post-war period and also which foods would be most acceptable. These questions were used in the survey: (1) Will housewives be willing to buy dehydrated foods if they are made available?; (2) Which foods are most likely to be bought?; (3) How do dehydrated foods compare in taste with fresh and canned foods?; (4) What advantages and disadvantages do housewives find in the use of dehydrated foods?; (5) Do housewives think dehydrated foods differ in nutritional value from fresh foods and canned foods? The foods involved in the survey were diced white potatoes riced white potatoes, sweetpotatoes, beets, and carrots.

One observation made from the survey was that, in general, most housewives who would be willing to buy dehydrated foods would not do so if they cost more than fresh foods, and some would buy them only if they cost less. From data obtained there is no basis to assume that housewives would buy large quantities of dehydrated foods as substitutes for fresh. If you want a copy of the results of this survey (18 pages including tables), let us know.

Post-war Topics of Greatest Interest.

The USDA Office of Personnel recently sent questionnairs to all USDA Clubs asking for an expression of opinion as to the relative importance of 16 possible post-war topics for Club discussion. The Milwaukee Club has turned in a report which shows that the five most popular topics are: (1) Public aid for conservation on private land; (2) Agricultural opportunities for returning servicemen; (3) World trade issues for agriculture; (4) Production adjustments in the post-war world; (5) Maintaining demand for farm products.

International Monetary Fund and Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

From July 1 to July 22, 1944, the United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference met at Brotton Woods, New Hampshire. Forty-four nations participated in the work of the Conference which had been called by President Roosevelt to formulate definite proposals for an International Monetary Fund and an International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Mordecai Ezekiel represented the Department of Agriculture at this Conference.

Although the Articles of Agreement resulting from the Conference do not spell out specifically the agricultural significance of the proposed International Fund and Bank, it appears obvious from the statement of their purposes that greater volume and stability of foreign trade should result. And any arrangements that will facilitate and increase the volume of foreign trade should directly or indirectly benefit U. S. agriculture.

Change of Address.

The Regional Office of the Forest Service in San Francisco, which is the headquarters of the California-Nevada Regional Committee on Post-war Programs, has been changed to the Appraisers Building, Sansome and Washington Streets, San Francisco 11, California.

Post-war Guide for Iowa Communities.

An attractive 2-color, 24-page pamphlet by this title has just been published by the Agricultural Extension Service at Ames, Iowa, for the Iowa Post-war Rehabilitation Commission. The subject matter is arranged under these general headings: What is ahead; Why should we plan; Who should plan; What should we plan; How to proceed; Making the plan work; and Where to get help. Inquiries about it should be directed to Agricultural Extension Service, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.

Post-War Literature References

What Outlook for U.S. Sales in Post-War Latin America? Prepared in America Republics Unit, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Foreign Commerce Weekly. (Washington) May 20, 1944, Vol. 15, No. 8: 6-17, 48-51.

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The Present and Future Role of the Ice Cream Industry in Frozen Foods, by F.L. Thompsen, Head, Division of Marketing and Transportation, BAE; in The Ice Cream Trade Journal, June 1944, pages 10-16, 67-74.

Improving Farm Tenure in the Midwest, Problems and Recommended Policies, North-Central Regional Publication No. 2 (Bulletin 502), published by University of Illinois, Agricultural Experiment Station, June 1944.

Post-War Planning in Britain. Unofficial Post-War Planning. 1939-1944, British Information Services, 88 pages.

Agriculture Builds for the Future, Raymond C. Smith. Land Policy Review 7(2): 3-7. 1944.

The World We Want (A conference held in London, May 1943), Session 3, on Health and Agriculture. 16 pages. London, 1943.

Seven Reports on Italian Economic Post-War Problems. International Research Service. New York. 48 pages. Processed. 1943.

Post-War Policy Has No-Man's Land. A.P. Chew, Land Policy Review, 7(2). 29-33, Summer 1944.

Norway's Problems of Social and Economic Reconstruction. K.G. Wold. International Labour Review 49: 585-607. June 1944. Section on agricultural problems.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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October 4, 1944

To: Chairmen of Regional Committees on Post-War Programs, Regional Activity Leaders, and Others Concerned with Post-War Programs for Agriculture

From: R. L. Webster, National Activity Leader on Information and Educational Services

HIGHLIGHTS ON POST-WAR ACTIVITIES

The Surplus Property Act of 1944, and the War Mobilization and Reconversion Bill of 1944 have both been passed by Congress and approved by the President.

The White House announced a conference on Rural Education to be held beginning October 5 and centering on the subject of public schools in rural areas of the United States.

A Congressional Subcommittee to Study Future Programs and Policies for Agriculture has been established.

All counties in 22 states have completed the setting up of County Agricultural Advisory Committees; other states well under way.

Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture issues a proposed Constitution for a Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

A summary report is out on the recent Conference to Outline the Contribution of Extension Methods and Techniques Toward the Rehabilitation of War-torn Countries.

Legislation of Significance to Post-War Agriculture.

During the past few months four items of legislation have been passed by Congress which provide a rather broad basis for post-war planning and action. They are the Contract Settlement Act of 1944, the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 (G. I. Bill), the War Mobilization and Reconversion Act of 1944, and the Surplus Property Act of 1944. The two latter Acts, in effect, provide legislative authority for activities that have heretofore been carried on under executive order.

1. The Surplus Property Act of 1944 sets up a 3-man Surplus Property Board to supervise the disposal of surplus war property. Subject to the supervision of the Board, the War Food Administrator or his successor shall be solely responsible for the formulation of policies with respect to the disposal of surplus agricultural commodities and surplus foods processed from such commodities. Actual disposal of such commodities, however, will be made by the agency or agencies designated by the Board to do it.

The Act specifically prohibits the Board from exercising any of its powers with respect to disposal of surplus cotton or woolen goods except with the approval of the War Food Administrator or his successor. The Act also prohibits the domestic sale of surplus farm commodities at prices less than the higher of CCC disposal prices or market prices. CCC is permitted to dispose of or cause to be disposed of, for export only, at competitive world prices, any farm commodity or product thereof, if not needed in the United States.

The Board can dispose of surplus real property through any agency it may designate but the Act provides that preference be given to former owners, tenants of former owners, veterans, and farmers generally, in the order mentioned.

The Act increases from 92½ percent to 95 percent of parity the commodity-loan rate for cotton with respect to crops harvested after December 31, 1943, but not to those planted after 1944.

Other provisions of the Act are that no property shall be considered surplus unless so designated by the owning agency. . . The Board is required to facilitate the transfer of surplus property from one Government agency to another for its use. . . That surplus property may be disposed of to local Governments and non-profit institutions. Provisions are included to facilitate the sale of agricultural equipment in rural areas with the assistance of AAA.

2. The War Mobilization and Reconversion Act of 1944 sets up an Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, under which will be the Office of Contract Settlement, the Surplus Property Board, and the Retraining and Reemployment Administration. The Act provides that OWMR will be headed by a Director and creates an advisory Board to advise with the Director. This Act also creates the above-mentioned Retraining and Reemployment Administration to supervise and direct the activities of all executive agencies, except the Veterans' Administration, with regard to retraining, reemployment, and vocational education, and rehabilitation. . . Authorization is given the Federal Works Agency to make loans or advances to States and political subdivisions to aid in financing investigations and other actions preliminary to any program of public works.

3. Latest information on the G. I. Bill of Rights (Public Law 346), so far as it has to do with loans to ex-servicemen with which to buy farms and farm equipment, is that within the past week the President wrote to Secretary Wickard and Veterans' Affairs Administrator Frank Hines urging that full advantage be taken of the provisions of the G. I. Bill and other legislation in order that the maximum number of veterans who desire to do so may find successful careers in agriculture. "It seems highly desirable", the President stated, "that a thorough survey of this problem be made very soon and you are requested jointly to make such a canvass and furnish me with a report and your recommendations at an early date." Accordingly, a committee consisting of five Department officials, headed by Assistant Secretary Brannan, has been appointed to meet with Vets Administration representatives to expedite compliance with the President's wishes.

4. The Contract Settlement Act of 1944 establishes the Office of Contract Settlement which is headed by a Director who prescribes policies, principles, methods, procedures, and standards, to govern the performance of Government agencies in connection with settlement of war contracts. This Act also creates a Contract Settlement Board with which the Director is required to consult in carrying out the functions of his office.

Agricultural Courses for Servicemen.

The United States Armed Forces Institute, with headquarters at Madison, Wisconsin, will offer several agricultural courses direct to men in the armed forces as soon as certain textbooks are off the press. Two of these textbooks, What is Farming?, and Managing a Farm, were prepared in BAE; a third one, Livestock Farming, was prepared in the BAI. Four other textbooks, Dairy Farming, Soils, Crops, and Poultry Farming, were adapted from existing textbooks written by USDA and State College technicians.

No free distribution of the above-mentioned books can be made, but separates of certain chapters will be printed and available upon request. We'll keep you posted as specific chapters come off the press later this year.

Proposed Constitution for Food and Agriculture Organization.

The Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture, consisting of representatives of 44 Governments, has drawn up and recently submitted to their Governments for acceptance, a proposed constitution for the Food and Agriculture Organization. Briefly, the broad objectives of FAO are: (1) To raise levels of nutrition and standards of living among the peoples of the world; (2) to secure improvements in the efficiency of the production and distribution of all food and agricultural products; (3) to better the condition of rural populations; and (4) to contribute by these means toward an expanding world economy.

County Ag Advisory Committees.

According to latest Extension Service reports, all counties in 22 states have organized committees to help advise veterans and others who may want to start farming after the war. In some 15 states this work is more than half completed, and in others plans are under way so that advisory assistance will be available when servicemen and war workers get back.

Reports indicate that about 50 percent of these committees are made up entirely of local farmers, and that all committees have dirt-farmer representation.

President Commends Legislation for REA.

Upon signing the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (Public Law 425), the President issued a 10-paragraph statement commending the REA provisions of the Act and made recommendations for post-war expansion of rural electrification. Among other things the new REA provisions provide permanent authorization for the loan funds required in the program, and liberalizes the terms of rural electrification loans. These provisions should make electricity available to thousands of farms that otherwise would not have been able to obtain it.

One paragraph of the President's statement says: "While H.R. 4278, which I have just signed, represents a great step forward in achieving the ultimate objectives of the rural electrification program further action appears to be necessary to satisfy the demands of an accelerated post-war program. Provisions should be made for immediate comprehensive surveys of unelectrified areas and for preparation of plans for rural electrification projects which can be placed in construction as soon as manpower and materials are available."

FSA Aids West Virginia Veterans.

R. G. Ellyson, State Director of FSA in West Virginia, says that a recent survey in his State shows that 22 recently discharged veterans have made application to county FSA offices to buy farms, or to buy equipment and livestock to start farming. What's more 117 men still in the armed forces have sent word to FSA county offices saying they would want credit and supervisory assistance to reestablish themselves on farms when they are discharged from the Service.

Up to September 18, Ellyson reports, two farm purchase loans had been approved for World War II veterans in West Virginia; rehabilitation or farm-operating loans have been made to 49 veterans.

Rehabilitation of War-torn Countries.

The conference held in Washington from September 19 to 22 to Outline the Contribution of Extension Methods and Techniques Toward the Rehabilitation of War-torn Countries ended with a summing up by Edmund deS. Brunner who discussed the proceedings under these subheadings: Extension Defined; The Aftermath of War; The Culture is Basic; Rural Similarities; Relief and Rehabilitation; Guideposts and Principles; Methods; Personnel; Private Agencies; and Broader Considerations. *

Congressional Committee to Study Future Programs and Policies for Agriculture.

Several weeks ago the House Committee on Agriculture appointed a Special Subcommittee with Representative Stephen Pace as Chairman, to Consider and Recommend Future Programs and Policies for Agriculture. Other members of the Subcommittee are Representativs Zimmerman, Poage, Granger, Voorhis, Wickersham, Hope, Andresen, Murray, Gillie and Hill. In a recent statement to the press, the Subcommittee listed the various phases of agriculture it intends to study. They are: Price supports, production control, soil conservation, parity prices and parity income, exports and imports, fertilizer, war surpluses, peace surpluses, rural electrification, prevention of use of farms as a "dumping ground for the unemployed," new and expanded uses of farm crops, reforestation and forest protection, transportation costs, processing, flood control, water conservation, irrigation, ever-normal granary, school-lunch program, marketing agreements, farm machinery and supplies, maintaining high level of consumption, farm-land values, farm-to-market roads, submarginal lands, nutrition, and special war-commodity problems.

Auctions of DPC Property Planned.

In addition to the auctions of surplus Defense Plant Corporation property at Ashland, Ohio, on September 8, and at Manteno, Ill., on September 28, another is scheduled to be held at Lawrence, Kans. on October 10. Others are being planned for the near future.

Northeast States Report on Post-war Activities.

Here are notes on Northeast activities gleaned from material sent us by Regional Chairman W. S. Middaugh: Connecticut - The State PW Planning Committee concerning itself mainly with settlement of servicemen on Connecticut farms. . . A bulletin on the subject is being prepared. . . Rural housing, electrification, and social security also discussed. New Jersey - Individual leaders and groups held statewide meeting with representatives of all local groups including C.E.D., and State

* Copies of this summary--a 10-page mimeograph job--are available upon request.

Department of Economic Development in Post-war Planning, to discuss situations likely to arise when the war ends. Pennsylvania - Recommendations on what the Stat can do are being prepared for State Post-war Planning Commission. . . Extension Service has asked their county executive committees to assume leadership in county post-war problems. Delaware - A bulletin containing advice to ex-servicemen and other prospective farmers in preparation. . . Setting up of county advisory counci to veterans under way. . . Survey of rural market situation being made. Massachuse - PWP Committee has drawn up plans for discussing with farm leaders this fall and winter the interdependence of agricultural and nonagricultural groups. . . County advisory service for veterans has been made available. . . Two bulletins are being prepared for printing, one on Living in the Country, the other on Selecting a Farm In Massachusetts.

Conference on Rural Education at White House.

The first conference ever to be held in the White House on rural education takes place October 3 to 5. On the agenda for consideration are the interdependence of rural and urban economics, the health of rural young people, the extension of complete educational opportunity to many thousands of farm children to whom it is now denied, and the post-war conversion plans of farm schools.

Some indication of the scope of this conference is the fact that farmers, educators, labor leaders, publishers of agricultural journals, the rural press, government officials (at least six from the USDA), farm organizations, industrialists, public health officials, and parents expecially concerned with rural schools, have been invited to attend.

SW Intermountain Committee Meeting at Denver October 6 and 7.

Regional Chairman Cyril Luker asked Regional Activity Leaders to a meeting of the Southwest Intermountain Regional Committee October 6 and 7 in Denver. Subjects on the agenda include: The point of view of the Land Grant Colleges in dealing with PW agricultural problems of the Southwest; opportunities for settlement of returnin veterans; training programs for veterans; surplus military land, supplies, and equi ment. Bushrod Allin and James Maddox of BAE will submit for discussion the statement on "What Peace Can Mean to the American Farmer."

Post-War Literature References

Agricultural Prices: A Look Ahead, by O.V. Wells of BAE, Sept. issue of Agricultur Situation, pages 9-12.

Wartime Farming in Britain, by Francis Flood of OFAR, Sept. issue of Agricultural Situation, pages 14-16.

Post-war Outlook for Oilseeds, by Edgar L. Burtis of BAE, Sept. issue of Agricultur Situation, pages 16-18.

Post-war Problems of Agriculture, issued by Council of State Governments, 1313 East 60th Street, Chicago 37, Illinois, July 1944.

Post-war Air Transport Costs and Markets for Lettuce, by R. W. Hoecker of BAE and Richard K. Waldo of Edward S. Evans Transportation Research, Washington, D. C. 35 pages, July 1944.

Conversion to Peace in Agriculture and Industry, by Mordecai Ezekiel of BAE, August issue of Free World (New York), pages 120-128.

Keep a Co-op Eye on Research, by O. E. May, August issue of News for Farmer Cooperatives, Farm Credit Administration, Kansas City, Mo., pages 1, 7-8.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Office of Information
Washington 25, D.C.

November 1, 1944

To: Chairmen of Regional Committees on Post-war Programs, Regional Activity Leaders, and Others Concerned with Post-war Programs for Agriculture

From: R. L. Webster, National Activity Leader on Information and Educational Services

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HIGHLIGHTS ON POST-WAR ACTIVITIES

DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS TAKE PART in the Fifty-eighth Annual Convention of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities at which the preliminary report of the Association's Committee on Post-war Agricultural Policy was considered.

A PRELIMINARY STATEMENT ON RURAL ELECTRIFICATION has been issued by the REA outlining a 5½-billion dollar electrification program for rural people.

POST WAR AGRICULTURE PROMINENT AMONG the topics to be taken up at USDA's twenty-second Annual Agricultural Outlook Conference.

A SERIES OF DISCUSSION GUIDES on post-war agricultural subjects are contemplated for issuance over the next several months; greater use of radio as an outlet for post-war information has already begun.

SOUTHEAST, PACIFIC NORTHWEST, AND SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONS have scheduled November meetings.

VETERAN ADVISORY COMMITTEES have now been set up in 2,162 of the Nation's 3,070 counties.

A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT on The Impact of the War on the Financial Structure of Agriculture has been issued by the Ag Finance Division of BAE.

Department Officials Take Part in Land-Grant College Convention.

The 58th annual convention of the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities held in Chicago from October 24 through October 26, devoted one of its general sessions to the report of the Association's committee on post-war agricultural policies, which report was divided into five sections: National Setting of Farm Policies; Price Policies and Adjustment of Production; Promoting Desirable Tenure Conditions and Protecting National Resources; Improvement of Rural Living and Social Facilities; Formulating and Administering Farm Policies and Programs. This session of the conference heard an address by Secretary Wickard on Agriculture's Part in Reconstruction.

In a foreword to the post-war committee's report, C. B. Hutchison, President of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities states that "the committee has obtained the suggestions and judgment of representatives of all the forty-eight state agricultural colleges. The committee has also counseled with specialists in

the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and with the officers of the national farm organizations such as the Grange, the Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union, the Farm Bureau Federation, and the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives. . . But the eighteen members of the committee," Dr. Hutchison points out, "have insisted that they alone are responsible for what is contained in this report." Printed copies of this report are scheduled to be off the press about November 30.

Earlier in the conference three other USDA officials gave addresses as follows: The Need for Continued High Agricultural Production in the United States, by J. B. Hutson, WFA's Director of Production; The Probable European Food Situation Immediately After the War, by Eric Englund, Head of the Regional Investigations Branch in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations; and Probable Trends in American Food Production After the War, by H. R. Tolley, Chief of BAE. Copies of the three above addresses and that of Secretary Wickard are available upon request.

Land Values and post-war agriculture were taken up under these headings: Inflation in Land Prices and Its Post-war Implications, by Dean W. I. Myers of New York; The Control of Inflation As a National Policy by Chester A. Bowles, Administrator of OPA; Major Adjustment For Agriculture In the Post-war Era, by O. B. Jesness, Chief of Minnesota's Division of Agricultural Economics; and Extension's Responsibilities with Farm People in Post-war Adjustment, by Lucile W. Reynolds, U. S. Extension Service. Complete proceedings of the conference are expected to be published later this year.

REA Issues Statement Outlining Five Year Program.

The Rural Electrification Administration has recently issued a preliminary report to the Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs outlining a rural electrification program that would create a $5,546,283,000 outlet for goods and services and would provide electric service to 3,655,000 rural homes. Such a program, the report points out, might involve 2-3/4 million man-years of labor. The report is based on data from the 1940 census, from reports of REA-financed cooperatives throughout the country, from actual electrified-farm-surveys of 600 counties, and on the findings and reports of the various State post-war planning committees. The report includes a statistical breakdown by States showing the number of rural consumers to receive service, total man-hours of labor involved, and the investment required for the program. Copies of this report are available upon request to the USDA's Office of Information.

Twenty-Second Annual Ag Outlook Conference to be Held November 13-18.

The tentative program of the 22nd Annual Agricultural Outlook Conference to be held in Washington, D. C. November 13 through 18, shows that schedules of post-war agriculture will be the first subject taken up. Following a general statement by O. C. Stine, Head of BAE's Division of Statistical and Historical Research, Norman J. Wall, Head of BAE's Ag Finance Division will talk about "Agriculture's 'Balance Sheet'--now and In World War I." The last day of the conference, November 18, will be devoted to the Extension program for returning veterans and others.

Maryland's Post-war Committee Considers Subcommittee Reports.

On October 20, Maryland's Post-war State Agricultural Committee met in Baltimore to consider reports which had been prepared by subcommittees during the large part of the past year. State Extension Director T. B. Symons was General Chairman of the

meeting and Paul E. Nystrom acted as General Secretary. Eighteen separate subcommittees read reports on their respective subjects and virtually all were approved as read. The topics involved were: general farm crops, animal husbandry, fruits, tobacco, vegetables and canning crops, conservation problems, farm engineering, plant insects and diseases, marketing farm crops, rural homes, rural youth, farm economics, farm labor and adjustments in management practices; education (including rehabilitation of returned soldiers), farm organizations, Federal-State relations, and rural institutions.

Maryland Extension Editor, Glenn Sample, has done a good job of getting out information materials based on these reports. For the past 2 months he has been sending out at least one release each week to approximately 100 weekly and daily newspapers and farm magazines in the State, as well as to some 15 radio stations.

Several Post-war Discussion Guides Contemplated.

A series of discussion guides are scheduled for publication during the next several months. In addition to the one that is already at the printer, "Let's Talk About Buying and Selling Farm Products Abroad," plans are under way to begin work immediately on the preparation of copy for discussion materials on Opportunities for Settlers on the Land, Land Tenure, Production Adjustments, Social Security for Farm People, Health and Sanitation, Farm Cooperatives, Rural Electrification, and various others as the need seems to warrant.

The October issue of Extension Service Review has an article titled, "Illinois Discussion Clinics Point up Post-war Problems." In this article Author David Lindstrom points out that in most instances the most popular topic for discussion is "How Can We Get Greater Cooperation Among the Organizations in our Community on Post-war Planning?" Suggestions are welcome as to what materials are most needed for discussion purposes in the various States.

Post-war Radio Schedule Under Way.

The Department's Radio Service has shaped up a radio schedule for post-war materials that will run for the next six months or so. Beginning now you may expect to hear more and more on the radio about post-war agriculture through such outlets as transcriptions, Farm and Home Hour, Consumer Time, etc. The first subjects to be covered will be land tenure, rural electrification, and opportunities for farming after the war. Other topics definitely scheduled are social security for farmers, rural industry, rural health, and marketing and distribution.

Cooperatives In The Post-war Period.

A working draft of a report on cooperatives in the post-war period has been prepared by the working group on this subject. Following an introductory section, the report discusses the farm cooperative idea regarding dairy products, grain, seeds, poultry products, livestock, wool and mohair, fruits and vegetables, cotton and oil seeds; special crops such as rice, sugar, honey, and tobacco; cooperative purchasing of frozen food locker plants; forest conservation, rural electrification, and agricultural credit. This draft which is now being reviewed in the field will be taken up at an early meeting of the Interbureau Committee with a view to its revision for eventual publication.

Simplified Outline on Community Post-war Programs.

The Interbureau Committee's working group on Agricultural-Industrial Relations and Rural Industries has recently prepared a simplified outline for the development of post-war improvement programs in the smaller agriculturally based communities. In effect, this outline is a condensation of Parts I and II of RU-5, "Suggestions for a Community Program for Post-war Employment" which this group issued several months ago. Copies can be obtained upon request to Dr. Mordecai Ezekiel of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Summary Report Issued of White House Conference on Rural Education.

The results of the conference on Rural Education that was held in the White House on October 3, 4, and 5, has been summarized by Ralph B. Jones, State Commissioner, Department of Education, Little Rock, Arkansas. The key note of his 10-page summary is: "It seems clear that a comprehensive program of rural education, vitalized by teachers, supervisors, buildings, equipment, and funds planned to serve the basic educational needs of rural people should be provided not only as their right but as a means of wisely developing and capitalizing on the rural resources of the United States." The more complete proceedings of this conference will be published later this fall.

Surveys on Probable Post-war Farm Spending.

In many communities of the Nation, surveys are under way to determine the probable intention and ability of farmers to spend for the improvement of their farms and the purchase of new equipment, supplies, and service. The results of several such surveys have come to our attention. A detailed survey made in Edmunds County, South Dakota, for instance, shows that this county's farmers can afford and intend to spend more than 3-½ million dollars during the first 2 post-war years on farm and farm home improvements. Based on the returns from 614 of the county's 957 farm families, the survey shows that more than $812,000 will be spent on farm improvements; that nearly 1-3/4 million dollars will be spent on farm equipment; that nearly $600,000 for farm home improvements; and that about $445,000 will go for the purchase of automobiles.

A combined 5-county survey in South Dakota showed, in terms of percentage, that the increase in expenditures for the post-war period over the pre-war (1939-40) period would be about as follows: household repair and building 556%; household equipment 344%; tractors 160%; other farm equipment 371%; farm construction and improvement 274%.

Preliminary results from Rawlins County, Kansas show that 360 farmers plan purchases amounting to over $1,125,000 and that estimated post-war purchases of farmers in Sherman County, Kansas will amount to more than $1,600,000.

A survey made at Fort Smith, Arkansas shows that post-war farm purchases will increase over pre-war purchases (1939-40), by these percentages: household repair and building 94%; household equipment 53%; tractors 83%; farm construction and improvements 125%.

A survey is now under way in Augusta County, Virginia which, when completed, will show how many people want jobs when the war is over; how much money people of the county will have to spend; and what they will want to buy. A release put out by

the Louisiana Agricultural Extension Service tells of a survey made by a popular magazine which indicates that the preferred home location after the war will be in the country or suburbs, rather than in the city. It mentions another magazine poll which found that 32% of its readers plan to buy new houses, and that the majority of them want to get away from crowded cities. Few showed any interest in fabricated houses. Such items as new radios, rugs, home freezing units, and electric irons are popular among post-war wants. Automobiles topped the list.

Post-war Fact Sheets in Preparation.

Over the past several months fact sheets on various post-war topics have been issued and plans are for brief factual statements to be issued on other subjects when the demand seems to warrant. At the present time at least two fact sheets are in the process of clearance: one on Social Security for Farmers, the other on Rural Health and Sanitation. Just out is a fact sheet entitled, "Where Are the Farms?" which was prepared to answer questions most often asked by servicemen and other prospective farmers. It includes a paragraph on farms that might be opened up through irrigation and drainage, and another on farming opportunities in Alaska. Copies of it, a 2-page mimeograph, are available upon request.

Big Majority of Counties Now Have Veteran Advisory Committees.

Information received from Extension Directors in 43 States shows that Veterans' Agricultural Advisory Committees have been organized in 2,162 of the Nation's 3,070 rural counties, with organization work under way in most of the other counties. Over the country as a whole, the number of farmers serving on each of these committees ranges from three to seven. In some States there is representation by existing agricultural agencies and local businessmen. In many instances the veteran advisory group is a subcommittee of a County Agricultural Planning or other existing committee. Reports from counties already functioning indicate the veterans who have not had farm experience are being urged to get such experience before investing money in farm land.

Regional Post-War Meetings Are Scheduled.

Notice has been received of three regional committee meetings, one of the Pacific Northwest committee at Portland, Oregon on November 9-10, one of the Southeast committee at Atlanta, Georgia on November 16, and another of the South Central committee at Dallas, Texas on November 21-22. At the Portland meeting, Regional Chairman Steve Wyckoff says that a review of work now going on will be made and consideration will be given new work for the regional committee, especially cooperative work with state committees. According to Regional Chairman T. S. Buie the main topic of the Atlanta meeting will be marketing farm products, other than cotton.

Regional Information Outlets.

At least two of the regional post-war offices are regularly issuing a roundup of news for the post-war people of the respective region. One of these is called, "Post-war Agriculture, Southwest Intermountain Region", which sums up what each of the States in that region is doing. Another is called, "Current Facts and Plans for Present and Future Agriculture" and is prepared by Rex E. Willard, Activity Leader on Information and Education for the Pacific Northwest Region.

FSA Issues Farm Health Handbook.

Just off the press is "A Handbook on Health for Farm Families." This is a 16-page pocket-sized pamphlet and should be of especial interest to rural postwar planners.

BAE's Division of Ag Finance Issues Report of Financial Statement on Agriculture.

A 191-page mimeographed report has recently been issued by BAE's Division of Agriculture Finance on "Impact of the War on Financial Structure of Agriculture," part II of which is devoted to this phase of agriculture in the post-war period. Some of the headings under this part of the report are: Immediate Post-war Development Affecting the Financial Structure, Maintenance of Land, Post-war Spending for Manufactured Goods, Readjustments of the Later Post-war Period, National Policies Affecting Demand for Farm Products, Policies Affecting Foreign Demand for Farm Products, and Changes in Financial Structure if Agriculture Contracts. A very limited number of copies are available, but a condensation of the report for wider distribution is scheduled to be printed as soon as possible.

Life's Special Issue--A Letter to GI's.

The September 25 issue of Life magazine, as you perhaps know, was devoted to GI Joes. If you have not seen this edition you may want to get it from your nearest library. Of particular interest is an article on page 45 titled "Farms Their Wartime Harvest is the Greatest the World Has Ever Seen"; and another on page 53 "When You Come Back" which does a pretty good job of answering many of the questions the veteran may have about the future, including a roundup of what each individual State is doing for veterans.

Check-List of State Post-war Bulletins.

During the past several months the Extension Services and Experiment Stations of quite a number of the States have issued bulletins or circulars aimed directly at one or more phases of post-war agriculture as it might affect the particular State. Copies of these documents can be obtained from the issuing State Extension or Experiment Station office. Here are some that have been brought to our attention

Buying A Farm In Colorado. Colo. Exper. Sta. Bul. 485, April 1944
Introduction to Postwar Program for Idaho Ag., Ranges & Forests. Idaho Exp. Sta. Cir. No. 91, August 1944
Postwar Guide to Iowa Communities. Iowa Ext. Pamphlet 91, August 1944
Postwar Planning at the Community Level. Kansas Exp. Sta. Cir. 225, August 1944
Farming As a Business. Kentucky Ext. Cir. 401, June 1944
Advisory Service for Prospective Farmers & Rural Homeseekers. Mass. Ext. Pamphlet Mimeographed
Buying A Farm in Western Oregon. Oreg. Ext. Bul. 635, June 1944
Opportunities in Agriculture Following the War, and Getting Started in Farming. Mich. Ext. Pamphlets, mimeographed, September 1944.
Some Points to Consider in Selecting & Buying a Farm, and a Guide to Purchase of Livestock Ranges. Mont. Ext. Pamphlets, mimeographed, July 1944
Suggestions to Persons Who Plan to Farm or Live in the Country, CornellExt. Bul. 652, June, 1944
Part-time Farming in Pennsylvania. Pa. Ext. Cir. 229
Buying a Farm in Virginia. Va. Ext.Bul. 161, June 1944.
Suggestions to Prospective Farmers, Wash. Exp. Sta. Bul. 174, September 1944.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington 25, D.C.

December 2, 1944

To: Chairmen of Regional Committees on Post-war Programs, Regional Activity Leaders, and Others Concerned with Post-war Programs for Agriculture

From: R. L. Webster, National Activity Leader on Information and Educational Services

HIGHLIGHTS ON POST-WAR ACTIVITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OFFICIALS present testimony on Production, marketing, post-war uses and other problems relating to cotton before the Sub-committee on Post-war Agricultural Programs of the House Agriculture Committee.

OUTLOOK CONFEREES cover wide range of topics pertinent to the future of agriculture.

POST-WAR HOUSING is scheduled to be discussed by University of Illinois faculty members in a series of quarter-hour broadcasts.

TWO LEAFLETS ON FOREIGN TRADE are now off the press: "International Trade Increases Demand for Farm Products," and "Let's Talk About Buying and Selling Farm Products Abroad."

A SURVEY OF USDA CLUBS to determine what phase or phases of post-war planning hold greatest interest shows that Inflation Control for Post-war Economic Stability has first place.

LOUISIANA STATE EXTENSION EDITOR points out need for post-war editorial vigilance.

SEVERAL TRANSCRIPTIONS ON POST-WAR TOPICS have already been cut and sent to farm radio stations.

USDA Officials Testify Before House Special Committee on Post-war Programs.

Some time ago we reported that the House Committee on Agriculture had set up a special sub-committee with Rep. Stephen Pace of Georgia as Chairman to consider and recommend future programs and policies for agriculture. On December 4 this Committee will hold extensive hearings on production, marketing, post-war uses and other problems relating to cotton. Secretary Wickard and War Food Administrator Jones will present statements on cotton problems and policies.

Other officials scheduled to testify and their subjects are: P.V. Cardon on Cotton Research and Related Work of the Agricultural Research Administration; Carl H. Robinson on Marketing Services, Marketing Research, and New Uses Program; C.C. Smith on Commodity Credit Corporation's Loan, Purchase, and Export Program; L.A. Wheeler on Post-war Foreign Markets for American Cotton; P.K. Norris on Foreign Cotton Production; J.W. Sargent on Soil Conservation as Related to Cotton Yields and Production; I.W. Duggan on Farm Credit Services to Cotton Farmers; M.L. Wilson on the Work of the Cooperative Extension Service in Cotton Production, Marketing, and Use; and William H. Jasspon on Fats and Oils.

Post-war Topics Emphasized at Outlook Conference.

A large part of the 22nd Annual Agricultural Outlook Conference held in Washington November 13-18 was devoted to a discussion of agricultural objectives during the post-war period. One of the highlights was a talk by Dr. E. A. Goldenweiser of the Federal Reserve Board. The principal single factor concerning agriculture, he believes, is maintenance of markets among the people of this country. In his opinion an excess of exports over imports will be needed while war-torn countries are being rehabilitated. Then, he said, an excess of imports over exports of some 2 billion dollars yearly will be necessary. Other principal speakers and their subjects were: O. C. Stine, Head of BAE's Division of Statistical and Historical Research who talke on post-war agriculture in general; Norman J. Wall; Head of BAE's Division of Ag Finance on Agriculture's Balance Sheet--Now and in World War I; Sherman E. Johnson, Head of BAE's Division of Farm Management and Costs, talked about Production Adjustments in 1945 and Post-war; a report of Wartime Family Living was presented by the Family Economics Division of the Bureau of Human Nutrition; Robert H. Shields, Solicitor for WFA and USDA submitted a report on Maximum Prices with Respect to Agricultural Commodities; and J. P. Cavin, Associate Head of BAE's Statistical and Historical Research talked about The General Food Situation. The above reports have been mimeographed in limited quantities and are available upon request to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

The final session of the conference was devoted to the Extension Program for Returned Veterans and Others. Virgil Gilman was chairman of this session; Paul Kepner talked about Extension's Responsibility to Returning Veterans; and under Problems to be Met, W. W. Westcott of Mass., discussed types of source materials needed; H. G. Bolster of Mont., spoke on the training of county committees; and Helen Alverson of Virginia, discussed family living problems of returning veterans.

Cotton and Wheat Export Programs.

Under provisions contained in the Surplus Property Act of 1944, WFA has announced programs to facilitate the exportation of wheat, wheat flour, and cotton. Under the program both wheat and cotton will be made available by CCC to exporters at competitive world prices and wheat will be made available to manufacturers of flour for export. The primary purpose of the program is to make U. S. wheat, wheat flour, and cotton available to foreign buyers on a price basis comparable with that at which other exporting countries are making these commodities availabe in world markets. Assurance was given to other exporting countries that the United States "has no intention of precipitating mutually injurious price competition in the world's wheat and cotton markets."

Recently two leaflets on international trade have come off the press. One is entitled "International Trade Increases Demand for Farm Products" (AIS-1). It is 16 printed pages. Some idea of its contents are indicated by these subheadings: Foreign Trade Raises Living Level; Depression and Self-sufficiency Lowered International Trade; Farmers Gain From the Export of Industrial Products; Lend-lease Takes Many Farm Products; and Post-war Planning Can Increase World Trade. The other leaflet is a printed discussion guide entitled "Let's Talk About Buying and Selling Farm Products Abroad" (D.S. 25). This leaflet presents for discussion by farm groups such topics as, Exports and Imports of Farm Products, How Exports and Imports are Paid for; Obstacles to Selling Abroad, Tariff and Exchange Hurdles, Blocked Balances and Exchange Restrictions, Quotas and Other Export and Import Limitations, and How Obstacles to International Trade Might be Overcome. Copies of these two leaflets are available from the USDA Office of Information.

Survey of USDA Clubs on Topics of Greatest Interest.

Some time ago the Department's Office of Personnel circulated a ballot among members of the various USDA clubs, the purpose of which was to find out what post-war topics were of greatest interest to them. An analysis of results from 1,836 members in 28 clubs shows that "inflation control for post-war economic stability" has top place among 16 subjects on which club members were asked to cast their vote. Second choice was "agricultural opportunities for war veterans" and a close third was "public aid for conservation on private land." Among the Department agencies represented in this survey were Forest Service, Farm Security, Office of Distribution, Commodity Credit Corporation, Extension Service, Farm Credit, Triple-A, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Agricultural & Industrial Chemistry, and Entomology and Plant Quarantine. Although this survey was limited to federal personnel it would seem to be a useful guide in assuming the post-war interests of other groups.

WILL Will Tell About Post-war Housing.

A series of quarter-hour broadcasts on post-war housing has been presented weekly over station WILL by members of the University of Illinois faculty since November 1. The series will continue through December 27. The phases of the subject yet to be covered are: December 6--What About Built-in Units; December 13--The Small Homes Council; December 20 (A request program); and December 27--Our Research Project in Housing.

Louisiana Ag Extension Service Issues Series of Editorials.

For some time the Louisiana Agricultural Extension Service has been issuing a series of editorials for the State press having to do with farming and its relation to national defense. Editorial number 151, for instance, is on Recreation and Religion in Post-war Agriculture, in which it is pointed out that the great majority of young people on farms do not have any suitable place to get together for recreation under wholesome environment. It is also pointed out that the church has a great opportunity and direct responsibility for leadership in getting people to work together for community welfare.

Extension Editor Views War and Post-war Responsibilities.

In an address before the Extension section of the Annual Conference of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities at Chicago, Louisiana State Extension Editor Majorie B. Arbour gave a straight-from-the-shoulder account of how Extension Editors geared themselves to wartime tempo. In her concluding remarks she had this to say about post-war editorial vigilance:

"In viewing responsibilities in war, the extension editor cannot fail to consider post-war responsibilities. Many of the old concepts will disappear with the ceasing of bombing and silencing of guns. Out of this holocaust will come a wiser and an older world; a world whose vicissitudes have seen the making of history -- startling, unbelievable, shocking! A world determined that never again will it be caught with its stock piles short; that never again will its potential battle fronts be unfortified.

"To help maintain this spirit of preparedness extension editors will have to keep their hands on the throttles of their fast-moving machines. These editorial Casey Joneses must make sure that the editorial freight stays on the tracks as they round perilous, economic curves, or there'll be another engineer on the extension line."

Veterans Want Information About Farming.

In a recent memo from South Central Regional Post-war Chairman, Lippert S. Ellis, he tells of a visit with Captain Wilkes whose work has to do with rehabilitation of men at Camp Robinson, Arkansas--men who are in the process of being discharged from the service. About 90 percent of these men are physically handicapped and Captain Wilkes says that a large number of them have expressed a desire to farm upon their return home. Ellis syas he showed Captain Wilkes copies of such pamphlets as Shall I Be a Farmer?, the Farm Credit leaflet entitled About That Farm You're Going to Buy, Guiding Principles for the Establishment of Veterans and Others on Farms, and Servicemen's Rights and Benefits under the G. I. Bill. The Captain was impressed to the extent of ordering about 100 copies of each which we were glad to supply.

And we note that the Home Economic Extension clubs and Home Demonstration agents of Laclede County, Missouri have joined with other groups to make life more pleasant for soldiers and hospital patients at Fort Leonard Wood. Various clubs are also cooperating with the Red Cross in forming "Arts and Skills Corps" to visit Fort Wood hospital three days a week to teach weaving, basketry, and leatherwork to ambulatory patients.

Nominations Made for Surplus Property Board.

Toward the setting up of the three-man board to supervise the disposal of surplus war property, the President has submitted the names of Robert A. Hurley of Conn., and Lt. Colonel Edward Heller, of Calif., to the Senate for approval. It is generally understood that Sen. Gillette of Iowa will be nominated as the third member of the Board as soon as he becomes eligible to receive such a nomination. Also, as agricultural members of the supervisory board required under the War Mobilization and Reconversion Act of 1944, the President has nominated and the Senate has confirmed Edward A. O'Neal of Alabama, James G. Patton of Colorado, and Albert S. Goss ofWashington.

In connection with the Surplus Property Disposal job, WFA has established an office of Surplus Property and Reconversion to supervise and coordinate the functions of its various agencies as they might relate to agriculture. David Meeker, who has been serving as Chief of the Farm Machinery and Supplies Branch, is the Director of this new office.

Post-war Planning--Past and Future.

The November 22 issue of the Congressional Record contains the full text of a speech on Post-war Planning given by the Hon William M. Colmer before the Third New England War Conference in Boston on November 17. As Chairman of the House Special Committee on Post-war Economic Policy and Planning, he briefly reviews legislation sponsored by that Committee which has now become law, namely, "bills on contract termination, surplus property disposal, and the setting up of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion."

With reference to other problems of our post-war economy, he points out that the Committee is, among others, making a detailed study on these vital factors with a view to making recommendations to Congress about them: New markets, both foreign and domestic, for increased production--including foreign trade and shipping; demobilization and its effect on unemployment; reemployment of demobilized soldiers

and war workers; maintenance of the standard of the American way of life; public works (Federal, State, and local) to the extent necessary to absorb the slack of unemployment by private enterprise; and, generally to study the problems of reconversion of a highly geared wartime economy to a peacetime basis with a minimum of governmental direction.

C. E. D. Obtains Industrial Employment Data.

As a result of industrial employment surveys made by the Committee for Economic Development in 29 cities, all but one show a rather high increase in prospective employment after the war compared with 1940. Here are the cities and the percentage of increase expected: Worcester, Mass., 10.1; Meriden, Conn., 59.1; Rochester, N.Y., 21.5; Syracuse, N.Y., 9.6; Binghamton, N.Y., 20.9; Philadelphia, Pa., 14.6; Middletown, Ohio, 19.7; Durham, N.C., minus 3.7; High Point, N.C., 23.9; New Orleans, La., 22.5; Milwaukee, Wisc., 30.4; South Bend, Ind., 36.2; Dubuque, Iowa, 50.1; Janesville Wisc., 28.7; Fort Smith, Ark., 14.6; Louisville, Ky., 32.5; Memphis, Tenn., 32.6; Duluth, Minn., 11.3; Great Falls, Mont., 12.3; Sioux Falls, S.D., 31.2; Wichita, Kan., 31.3; Fort Worth, Tex. 30.2; Salt Lake City, Utah, 21; Sacramento, Calif., 13; Portland, Ore., 35.9; Spokane, Wash., 5.1; San Diego, Calif., 125; Peoria, Ill., 31.5; Beaumont, Tex., 35.2.

The Post-war Competitive Situation for Cotton in Domestic Markets is the title of a 70-page mimeographed report just issued by the Department's Interbureau Working Group on Marketing and Distribution. The scope of the report is indicated by these main headings: Trends in consumption of principal, natural and synthetic fibers; Demand for cotton as influenced by competition from synthetic fibers, paper, or jute; Probable demand for cotton for specific uses; Cotton as a raw material for synthetic fibers; and Possibilities for improving cotton's competitive position. A limited supply of this report is available upon request to the USDA Office of Information.

Non-farm Employment Important in Northeast--Middaugh.

A few weeks ago W. S. Middaugh, Chairman of the Northeast Regional Committee, in a memo to Land-Grant College representatives transmitting materials prepared by the Department's Interbureau Sub-committee on Agricultural-Industrial Relations, called attention to the fact that "In the Northeast non-farm employment of both farm and rural non-farm population is far more important to us and more of a problem than farm employment itself." This point," he says, "has been stressed with the Committee for Economic Development Regional Managers." Middaugh also points out that C.E.D. should make contact with Land-Grant Colleges in connection with development of committees for rural areas and suggests that they make use of reports and recommendations by established community and county agricultural planning committees. "Such arrangements," he says, "have been made in several States of the Northeast." The attention of the C.E.D. has also been called to the fact that BAE is prepared to cooperate in a few communities that desire to do a more thorough job in surveying and analyzing the post-war problems of the community.

Problems of Post-war Agriculture.

In a talk before the North Carolina State Grange recently, I. W. Duggan, Governor of the Farm Credit Administration said that if new farms are necessary a much larger supply could be had by opening to farming through irrigation, drainage, or clearing 30 to 40 million acres of undeveloped land. He referred specifically to the Columbia River Basin in Washington and the Mississippi Delta. In these areas, he said, about 5 million acres could be made suitable for farming--from 300,000 to 400,000 farms.

"About one-third of this land, enough for perhaps 125,000 farms is in areas where development is authorized or under construction. However, in any development of this type we must keep in mind the available markets for the products of the land."

Marketing, Health, and Information Problems were considered by the Southeast Regional Post-war Committee on Post-war Programs at its November 16 meeting in Atlanta. Marketing problems at the national, regional, and State levels of commodities other than cotton, were reveiwed in a series of discussions arranged by W. H. Elliott of the Atlanta headquarters of the Office of Distribution. Dr. John Newdorp, regional activity leader presented a tentative outline of work for a State committee on rural health and sanitation and James E. Montgomery of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported on the Newton County, Miss., Agricultural Health Association. R. L. Webster reported on the national activity on information and urged similar activity at state levels.

Iowa Young Folks Consider Post-war Opportunities.

This is the subject of a short article in the November Extension Service Review and is centered around this question, posed by the Rural Young People's State Board of Iowa: "What can we do now as individuals and through our organization to help create post-war opportunities for rural young people?" Here are some things they are thinking about -- post-war boom or despression ... farmer-banker advisory board might give help to servicemen seeking new ideas in farming ... put money in war bonds and postpone building, fencing, etc., until materials are available ... how will population trends affect the returning servicemen interested in farming?

Annual State Extension Conferences.

Several of the State Extension offices have held their annual conference - many others are in the offing. From brief reports there is every indication that post-war agriculture is the main consideration this year. The Ohio conference, for instance, held October 30 to November 3, centered its discussion around post-war problems and extension plans. In Kansas, the conferees talked about "our job in the post-war period," "the extension program for returning veterans," "rural housing," and "a program for older rural youth." In Maryland, particular attention was paid to post-war adjustments. According to Maryland Extension Director T. B. Symons, "Veterans should not be encouraged to farm if they have had no previous farm experience, nor should they be located on poor farms. The saddest plight of the returning veteran," he said, "is to be heavily in debt on a farm that for various reasons is economically unsound."

Services Available to Members of Armed Forces.

Paul Maris working with the Interbureau Committee's Land Settlement working group has developed a chart showing services available to members of the armed forces interested in agriculture and the agencies and institutions that offer such services. The main breakdowns of the chart show what services are available before separation, after separation, and also services rendered at the county level. A somewhat comprehensive explanatory statement about this chart is being prepared. As soon as it it can be cleared, this material will be generally available from the USDA Office of Information.

Fact Sheet Check List.

To meet the need for short statements on various post-war topics, a number of fact sheets have been issued. Following is a list of those that have been put out up to the present time: Post-war Agricultural-Industrial Relations in Agriculturally Based Communities; Farm Security Administration Services Available to Veterans; Good Farm Leases; Post-war Soil Conservation Needs; How to Get Help in Buying a Farm; Post-war Opportunities to Farm; Recommendations on Post-war Use of Nitrogen Plants; Social Security for Farmers (revised); Trends in Foreign Agricultural Policies; and Where are the Farms? Another one on Rural Health and Sanitation is scheduled to go out in a few days.

Transcriptions on Post-war Agriculture.

Three transcriptions on post-war agricultural subjects have already been cut and another is scheduled for recording next week. Those already recorded are: Farms for Vetterans--Where and How; Better Farm Leases After the War; Health Parity for Farmers. The one coming up will be on Social Security for Farmers.

Vermont Asks County Committees for Post-war Recommendations.

The State Rural Policy Committee of Vermont has suggested to its County Rural Policy Committees that they appraise the needs of their respective counties and submit a list of the desired improvements to be undertaken as labor and materials become available. A partial list of post-war projects were suggested for consideration including crop, pasture, and forest land improvement, marketing facilities, construction of public buildings, sanitation, recreation, highways, schools, farm home improvement, and health facilities.

The Coming Peace Challenges the Extension Editor.

This is the theme of a meeting to be held by agricultural Extension Editors of Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas, and Louisiana at New Orleans, December 5-6. A number of representatives of daily and weekly newspapers, and farm magazines are scheduled to speak to the group from the newspaperman's and farm journalist's viewpoint about post-war information angles. Werner Myer of the USDA Extension Service will talk about How Extension Editors can Provide Post-war Agricultural Stories for the Daily and Weekly Papers and Farm Magazines; W. K. Charles of the USDA Office of Information is scheduled to discuss post-war uses of the wire recorder, television, and other modern radio facilities.

A Coordinated Veterans Information Plan is being formulated by the Office of War Information designed to make sure the public is correctly informed of the following aspects of the veterans problems; (1) rights of veterans; (2) desirable community organization for servicing veterans returning to civilian life; (3) treatment of veterans, especially those physically or mentally handicapped; (4) employability; and (5) responsibilities of veterans themselves. This program is still wholly in the planning stage.

Lions Club at Mayville, Wisc., has Post-war Project.

Recognizing the difficulties many servicemen will have in readjusting themselves upon their return, the Lions Club at Mayville, Wisc., is mailing letters to all boys in the service from that town and surrounding rural area. Each letter contains a questionnaire asking for information on the post-war needs and wants of the veterans.

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January 1, 1945

To: Chairmen of Regional Committees on Post-war Programs and Others Concerned with Post-war Programs for Agriculture

From: R. L. Webster, National Activity Leader on Information and Educational Services

HIGHLIGHTS ON POST-WAR ACTIVITIES

POST-WAR COMMITTEES OF THE DEPARTMENT and the Association of Land-Grant Colleges to hold joint meeting week of February 5.

APPROXIMATELY 1,500 VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II had received FSA loans through November 30.

SECRETARY WICKARD TALKS ABOUT "WHEAT FARMING AFTER THE WAR" before Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association at St. Paul.

A REPORT ON WARTIME CHANGES IN WORLD FOOD PRODUCTION has been issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

THE FEDERAL EXTENSION SERVICE IS HOLDING AN INSTITUTE this week on the educational phases of post-war plans.

RURAL HEALTH, INFORMATION SCHEDULED for discussion at February meeting of Southeast Region.

ALL PROVISIONS OF THE G. I. BILL OF RIGHTS are now in effect.

Post-war Committees to Hold February Conference.

The Department's Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs and the Committee on Post-war Agricultural Policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges will hold a joint meeting in Washington the week beginning February 5. The regional chairmen of the Department's post-war committees are expected to take an important part in this conference. A detailed agenda has not been worked out at this date.

In a Summary Report of its Activities to the Whole House the House Special Committe on Post-war Economic Policy and Planning made this comment: "While your special committee feels that its work up to date has contributed substantially to the solution of problems confronting the country in the reconversion of the Nation from a wartime to a peacetime economy, it nevertheless, is convinced that there is urgent need for the continuation of its study and investigation of those problems above set out, in addition to other economic issues which are sure to arise. The committee is therefore unanimously of the opinion that its life should be extended in the new Congress and its efforts lent to the solution of the vital questions affecting the welfare of the Nation." Shortly after the committee was established in January 1944 subcommittees were set up which, during the year, made investigations or held hearings on these phases of reconversion: War contract settlements; Surplus disposal; Public works; Demobilization, reemployment and unemployment insuranc Agriculture and mining; Foreign Trade and shipping; and Financial and tax policies.

Some Data on Post-war Spending at Anderson, S.C.

A study made by the Anderson, S.C. Chamber of Commerce under the supervision of Clemson Agricultural College a nd with the cooperation of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, shows that farmers of Anderson County will spend slightly more than $4 million for farm construction and equipment in the two years following the war as compared with less than $1½ million during 1939 and 1940. Based on information obtained from 575 farm owners the demand for farm equipment in the two post-war years will represent an increase of 263 percent over the two pre-war years. The methods by which Anderson County farmers expect to finance post-war purchases of farm construction and equipment, in terms of percentage, are as follows: Cash and checks, 41.7 percent; savings accounts, 2.6 percent; war bonds, 5.9 percent; installment credit, 23.4 percent; borrowing, 20.6 percent; trade-ins, 3.7 percent; and miscellaneous, 2.1 percent. We understand that the Anderson Chamber of Commerce will soon publish a document called "Anderson After the War" which presents detailed data on the post-war potential of the county.

Nearly 1,500 Veterans of World War II Get FSA Loans.

Through November 30 of 1944 nearly 5,000 veterans of World War II had applied to the Farm Security Administration for rehabilitation, farm ownership, and other types of loans. Nearly 1,500 of these have been approved. Some of these veteran-borrowers had been wounded in action. Take Charles L. Evans of Benzie County, Mich., for example. He had been a farm laborer before he entered the Army on July 6, 1942. Some months later he saw action in North Africa until he was wounded. For months he lay in Army hospitals in Africa and in this country. His medical discharge came through in October 1943. Now, with the help of an FSA loan he has acquired a 3-year lease on a Benzie County farm and the equipment needed to run it. . . . Another example is Darriel Fitch of Langlade County, Wisc., who not only contracted malaria but also suffered a brain concussion on New Georgia Island when a Japanese shell exploded near his foxhole. Lacking the capital or credit to get a loan from other sources FSA loaned him $2,500 with which he leased an equipped 70-acre farm and bought 15 cows, a team, harness, and seed.

Wartime Changes in World Food Production is the title of a 91-page processed report just released by the Department's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The purpose of the report is to show how far the world's agriculture has maintained food production since the war began, in terms of the caloric value of the principal items of farm output. Included among the chapter headings are: Changes in Food Production by Regions; Pre-war Food Production and Consumption in Selected Countries; and Changes in Food Production by Commodities. Copies can be obtained from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, Washington 25, D. C.

Wheat Farming After the War.

This is the title of an address given by Secretary Wickard at the annual meeting of the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association at St. Paul on December 13. With reference to how the wheat farmer will fit into the general picture after the war, he said: "In some ways the outlook for him is bright. Methods of wheat farming have pretty well kept up with the advance of technology; so far as we can see now, the greatest part of the change from hand to mechanized production already has taken place. Manufacture of smaller and less expensive power equipment for medium-sized farms probably will be the most striking advance after the war. . . . On the other hand, wheat does share with cotton the problems of a traditional export crop whose foreign markets have been greatly curtailed during recent years and whose export prospects for the long pull are in considerable doubt." In closing the Secretary said "Price appears to be the great question mark in our post-war program for wheat.

I do not believe there will be serious differences of opinion over the other essentials of a well-rounded program. As I see them, those essentials are a strong program of soil conservation and improvement, crop insurance, the Ever-Normal Granary, the international wheat agreement, and an efficient system of marketing." This 7-page single-spaced mimeograph can be obtained upon request to the Press Service of USDA.

All Provisions of G. I. Bill Are Now Effective.

With the announcement on December 21 of provisions for the guaranty of business loans under the G.I. Bill, all parts of this Act are now in effect. These provisions are basically similar to those contained in the regulations on farm loans which were issued by General Hines of the Veterans' Administration and Charles F. Brannan, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, at a press conference on December 8. As a matter of record the educational and employment provisions of the G. I. Bill became effective in June; the readjustment allowance provisions were announced in September; and regulations pertaining to guaranty of home loans became operative in October.

Intended primarily for the use of County Agents and County Veteran Agricultural Advisory Committees a question and answer leaflet on the farm loan guaranty features of the G. I. Bill has been prepared by Paul Kepner of Extension.

Servicemen Attend Spokane USDA Club Meeting.

The topic for discussion at the December 5 meeting of the Spokane USDA Club was "Agricultural Opportunities for Returning Servicemen." Six soldiers from nearby Baxter General Hospital were invited to take part in the discussion according to word received from E. J. Bell, Jr., President of the Spokane Club. Captain D. C. Ronnow, in charge of the Educational Division of the Hospital introduced the soldiers and explained that some of them had farm experience and that all six of them planned on returning to farms.

Wisconsin Agriculture After the War was the subject of a conference held at Madison on December 11 and 12 by the Wisconsin College of Agriculture Post-war Planning Committee. Among the topics discussed were: Reconversion problems of special interest to agriculture; Trends in agricultural production; Planning on the individual farm; Opportunities for improvements in marketing; Improving farm-family living standards; Strengthening rural communities; and Public policy relating to agriculture.

Southeast Region to Hold February Meeting.

T. S. Buie, Chairman of the Southeast Post-war Committee sends word that the tentative date for the next regional meeting is February 15 and 16. Rural health is scheduled for discussion the first day of the meeting and information the second. Through the Extension Directors of the States in the Southeast Region, the Extension Editors have been invited to attend this meeting.

Two More Transcriptions on Post-war Agriculture have been made during the past few weeks. One was on Social Security for Farmers, the other on Selling Farm Products Abroad After the War. Scheduled for cutting next is another platter entitled "Prospects for Farming After the War." The usual procedure is for these recordings to be sent direct to radio stations that have asked for them through Extension Editors of the various States.

"The Farmer's Part in Reconversion" has been announced as the topic for discussion at the Eighth Annual National Farm Institute to be held this year on February 16 at Des Moines. For more details of the program inquire of John D. Adams, Secretary of the Institute, Des Moines, Iowa.

An Institute on the Educational phases of Post-war Plans is being held in Washington under the sponsorship of the Federal Extension Service from January 4 to 6, at which ~~the viewpoints~~ of many groups--business, labor, religious, civic, industry, welfare associations, and farm organizations--will be heard. At the first session, following the remarks of M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension on the objects of the Institute, Secretary Wickard will talk about Agriculture During the War and Post-war from the Standpoint of General Education and Citizen Understanding. Following the Secretary's talk, Noble Clark, Associate Director of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station and Chairman of the Committee on Post-war Agricultural Policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, will present and discuss the report of his committee.

In addition to Mr. Clark, representatives of the following groups are expected to attend to discuss the educational aspects of their respective post-war plans before the Institute; American Farm Bureau Federation; National Grange; Farmers' Education and Cooperative Union; National Council of Farmers' Cooperatives; C.I.O.; A.F. of L.; Railroad Brotherhoods; U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Committee for Economic Development; Cooperative League of the United States of America; The Producers' Council--Construction Trades; National Planning Association; The Protestant Churches; and The Catholic Churches.

Colorado Post-war Report.

In the December 21 issue of the Southwest Intermountain Region's house organ, "Post-war Agriculture," we note that Ralph E. Johnston, Secretary of the Regional post-war committee, recently spent two weeks in Denver and Fort Collins, Colo., assisting members of the Colorado Post-war Agricultural Committee to prepare a report consisting of brief statements on various State problems including definite recommendations as to action that should be taken. The report was scheduled for distribution about the end of December. The December issue also carries a report on post-war activities in Utah and New Mexico.

UK Post-war Program for Milk.

In the December number of Foreign Agriculture, issued by the USDA's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, there is an article entitled the "United Kingdom Wartime Policy and Post-war Program for Milk" which you may wish to read. "Post-war milk supplies (in the United Kingdom) probably will be used largely in fresh or liquid form, according to present indications. "If so," Author David D. Jones says, "only reduced amounts will be available for manufacturing, at least for a time, and there will be a corresponding need for imported milk products."

A Survey on Post-war Plans of Men Now in the Army was recently conducted among troops in the U. S. and overseas by the Information and Education Division of the Army Service Forces. Results of the survey, according to a recent OWI release, show that 7 percent have definite plans for operating a business and 5 percent plan on farming. For the most part they are interested in relatively small enterprises, about half of them saying they will invest $4,000 or less.

A Buyer's Guide for Surplus Property has been issued recently which gives pertinent information about the disposal of surplus property. It lists the Government agencies, the types of property each will be responsible for, and the addresses of the various sales offices. Copies of this document can be obtained from the U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for 10 cents a copy.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington 25, D.C.

March 15, 1945.

To: Chairmen of Regional Committees on Post-War Programs, and Others Concerned with Post-War Programs for Agriculture

From: R. L. Webster, National Activity Leader on Information and Educational Services

HIGHLIGHTS ON POST-WAR ACTIVITIES

LAND-GRANT COLLEGE GROUP AND USDA INTERBUREAU COMMITTEE set up joint committee to facilitate cooperative action on post-war aims for agriculture.

SECRETARY WICKARD PRESENTS TESTIMONY ON RURAL HOUSING before the Sub-Committee on Housing and Urban Redevelopment of the Senate Special Committee on Post-War Economic Policy and Planning.

POST-WAR BULLETINS ISSUED by three more states: Delaware, Maine and Colorado.

PREDICTIONS ON POST-WAR OUTLOOK FOR AGRICULTURE given by Chief of BAE in his report for the fiscal years 1943-44.

A STATEMENT ON POST-WAR POLICY FOR FERTILIZERS AND LIMING MATERIALS released by committee of USDA and WFA representatives.

INTERBUREAU COMMITTEE RELEASES REPORT on A Post-War Foreign Trade Program for United States Agriculture.

NEW LEGISLATION (Public Law No. 12) PROTECTS Cotton, wheat, and peanut allotments for veterans.

TEXAS BOY GETS FIRST FARM LOAN under the G. I. Bill.

Land-Grant College Group and USDA Interbureau Committee Establish Joint Committee. --The Committee on Post-War Agricultural Policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities and the USDA Interbureau Committee on Post-War Programs have each appointed sub-committees of seven members to meet jointly from time to time to exchange ideas and facilitate cooperative action on post-war agricultural programs. This action was taken as a result of unanimous agreement to do so at the close of the conference between the two groups in Washington from February 5 to 9. This conference has been declared by both groups to have been very worthwhile, the conferees having found themselves in close agreement on most of the post-war aims for agriculture. The members of the two sub-committees are as follows--For the Land-Grant College Post-War Committee: H. R. Wellman, Director, The Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, University of California; O. B. Jesness, Chief, Division of Agricultural Economics, University of Minnesota; T. I. Throckmorton, Head, Department of Agronomy, Kansas State College; H. R. Ramsower, Director, Agricultural Extension Service, Ohio State University; George H. Aull, Head, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, Clemson Agricultural

College; Noble Clark, Chairman of the Land-Grant College, Post-War Committee and Associate Director, Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Wisconsin and Leonard A. Salter, Jr., Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics, University of Wisconsin (Secretary of the sub-committee).

For the Department of Agriculture and War Food Administration: Raymond C. Smith, Chairman of the USDA Interbureau Committee on Post-War Programs; William A. Minor, Assistant to the Secretary; Frederick V. Waugh, War Food Administration; Sherman E. Johnson, Bureau of Agricultural Economics; Paul V. Kepner, Federal Extension Service; Charles E. Kellogg, Agricultural Research Administration; and Henry Jarrett, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, (Secretary of the sub-committee).

Post-war Readjustments in Processing and Marketing Dehydrated Fruits and Vegetables is the title of a 94-page preliminary draft of a report prepared in January by the Working Group on Post-War Readjustments in Processing and Marketing Facilities and Methods. Some topics covered are: The Technique of Dehydration, the Technologic Status of Food Dehydration, The Industry Before the War, The Industry During the War, and The Industry in the Post-war Period. This draft is now being reviewed in Washington and in the field. It is expected that the report will be cleared by the Inter-bureau Committee and released for general use in the near future.

A Post-War Policy for Fertilizers and Liming Materials.

An 11-page pamphlet entitled "A National Policy for Fertilizers and Liming Materials" has been prepared by a committee composed of USDA and WFA representatives and is now available for distribution by the Office of Information. According to Secretary Wickard, as expressed in a foreword by him, this statement "endeavors to point the direction our national policy for fertilizers and lime should take in the years after the war." The need for increased use of these materials and ways and means to fill the requirements after the war are stressed.

AAA Allotments on Cotton, Wheat and Peanuts Protected for Veterans.

On February 28, the President approved Senate Bill No. 338 (Public Law No. 12) which protects the cotton and wheat allotments of farmers who shifted to war crops or entered the Armed Forces and the peanut allotments of those who entered the Armed Forces. It also authorizes an upward adjustment of peanut acreage on farms where the acreage is below that indicated by the normal history of the farm.

The Use of Statistics in the Formulation of a National Full Employment Policy was the subject of an address by Vice President Wallace before a meeting of The American Statistical Association in Washington on December 27, 1944. "Full employment in the United States is the first step to permanent world-wide peace," Mr. Wallace asserted. He stressed the fact that the first step in insuring the success of the political slogan, "Jobs for All," is a statistical formation and recalled how the abstract concept of "Equality for Agriculture" was given mathematical form by economic statistics of the Department of Agriculture in the middle 1920's. In discussing the Murray Full Employment Bill, he said: "I find in this proposed bill something that has hitherto been lacking in most of our post-war planning: Namely, a clear understanding of the necessity for active interplay between the executive and the legislative branches of our government."

Secretary Wickard Presents Testimony on Rural Housing.

Secretary Wickard made a plea for better rural housing before the Sub-committee on Housing and Urban Redevelopment of the Senate Special Committee on Post-War Economic Policy and Planning, January 17, 1945. "There are roughly 6-1/2 million dwellings on farms in this country," he said and emphasized the fact that according to 1944 estimates, 2 million of these need major improvements and about 2 million should be entirely replaced. "The loans and limited subsidy programs of recent years have affected probably less than 4 percent of the nation's farm homes, and a large percentage of the improvements consists of repairs and additions to houses that already were in fairly good condition. Even making allowance for the unmeasurable results of research and educational programs, the record is not impressive."

Along with his testimony the Secretary submitted an analysis of the farm housing situation prepared by the Department's Interbureau Committee on Post-War Programs. Copies of the Secretary's testimony and the analysis can be obtained upon request to the USDA Office of Information.

Three More States Issue Post-War Bulletins.

At least three more states have put out bulletins on the prospects of farming in their respective states: Choosing a Farm in Delaware, Choosing and Buying a Maine Farm, and What About Post-War Agriculture in Colorado? The Delaware bulletin, prepared by Hugh A. Johnson, Associate Agricultural Economist and Chairman of the Committee on Post-War Planning for Agriculture, University of Delaware, tells what the state is like, what the necessary qualifications of a farmer are, the kinds of farming in the state, where the available farms are, how much it costs to get started farming in the state, etc. The Maine bulletin stresses the kinds of farming in that state but answers many other pertinent questions on farming in general. It was prepared by Charles H. Merchant, Department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management, College of Agriculture, University of Maine. The Colorado bulletin is a summary of the report of the Colorado Post-War Agricultural Committee. In 19 pages it covers these subjects: Settlement Opportunities, Agricultural Research, Land Assessment, Land Classification, The Land Market, Livestock Sanitation, Soil Resources, Use of Crop Lands, Use of Range Lands, Use of Forest Lands, Marketing of Agricultural Products, Agricultural Fact Finding, Adult Agricultural Information and Training, Rural Health, Rural Housing, and Farm Labor. Ralph E. Johnston, Secretary of the Southwest Intermountain Region's Post-war Committee, cooperated in the preparation of this report. Single copies of this bulletin may be obtained from the Agricultural Experiment Station, Colorado A & M College, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Agricultural Engineers and the Post-War World.

The huge contribution that agricultural engineers can make toward a lasting peace by helping to provide "more food for all peoples" and a good standard of living was stressed by Arthur W. Turner, in charge of USDA's agricultural engineering research, in speaking to a meeting of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers recently. He said that the fundamental research carried on by Federal agricultural engineers in cooperation with the State agricultural experiment stations provides the basic facts needed by industry to provide farmers with the most efficient materials, buildings, and machines. Copies of Mr. Turner's talk are available from the Office of Information. Ask for press release USDA-311-45.

AAACE to Hold Regional Meetings.

National officers of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors are encouraging more regional meetings of the extension editors so that it may be expedient for more of them to attend meetings to exchange ideas with their fellow editors. Announcement of this plan was made in the February issue of "The Ace," the official house organ of AAACE. For the purpose of these regional meetings, the United States has been divided into seven areas, each with a designated Key Editor. These editorial meetings, The Ace points out, are "stimulating, enthusing, energizing." It would seem that these gatherings would offer an opportunity to discuss plans for the preparation and dissemination of information on post-war agriculture.

Here is the area by area line-up: Area 1--Key Editor--G. O. Oleson, Massachusetts: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Washington, D. C.; Area 2--Key Editor--A. J. Sims, Tennessee: Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Alabama, Georgia, Florida; Area 3--Key Editor--J. E. McClintock, Ohio: Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa; Area 4--Key Editor--Marjorie Arbour, Louisiana: Mississippi, Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas; Area 5--Key Editor--John Ryan, South Dakota: North Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana; Area 6--Key Editor--G. E. Ferris, Colorado: New Mexico, Arizona, Utah; Area 7--Key Editor--A. L. Higginbotham, Nevada: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California.

Federal Land Banks Interested in P. W. Agriculture.

With reference to the desirability of sending post-war information on agriculture to Federal Reserve Banks, R. M. (Spike) Evans, former chief of Triple-A and now Vice Chairman of the Federal Reserve System, sends in this comment: "It is a splendid idea for the Department of Agriculture to keep the Federal Reserve Banks fully aware of its plans. The Banks are showing an increased interest in all that you hope to accomplish in the post-war period for agriculture and I am sure that reliable information from the Department will be very helpful at all times." He also calls attention to a change in the presidency of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland: M. J. Fleming, who has retired, has been replaced by R. M. Gidney.

Post-War Activity in Hamilton County, Iowa.

The Williams Community in Hamilton County, near Webster City, Iowa, last fall conducted a survey of 231 farms, the results of which are reported by County Extension Director, H. M. Nichols. It was found that the farmers expect to put in 18,760 rods of tile; they expect to build 12 new homes, 24 new barns, and many smaller buildings after the war; they intend to repair 43 homes, 49 barns, and 38 corn cribs; they want 42 new refrigerators, 38 stoves, 50 water systems, and 52 other electric appliances; they want 67 tractors, 60 combines, and 78 corn pickers. They want only six automobiles! Seventy farmers want permanent hired help and 92 want part-time help. Only 19 farmers expect to retire permanently after the war, but 29 expect returning veterans to actually work the farms.

Hamilton County has an elaborate road and bridge program in the blue print stage which will be put into effect if and when returning veterans cannot secure suitable employment on the farms, in retail stores, in the professions, and in industry.

The Secretary Discusses Post-War Prospects for Dairy Farmers.

"Post-war prospects for this Nation's farmers are bright provided we find a way to use all of our great capacity to produce," Secretary Wickard said in an address at the annual banquet of the Elkhart Committee Dairy Association at Goshen, Indiana, February 26. He said that the estimated milk production which may be required in 1950 under full employment is 128 billion pounds, or 9 billion pounds more than our total production for the war year 1944, and 24 billion pounds more than the average pre-war production. This figure would be increased by another 8 billion, Mr. Wickard estimates, with a national program for helping low-income families obtain all of the right kinds of food they need. In summing up, the Secretary said: "Increases in production will be a blessing to farmers if we take our part in expanding world trade, help low-income families obtain more farm products, and take the steps necessary to maintaining full employment." (USDA Press Release 345-45).

The Report of the Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics for the fiscal years 1943-44 contains the following predictions and statements on the post-war outlook for agriculture: (1) Because of technological progress and better farm practices, farmers will be able to produce more food and fiber than ever before; (2) They will receive prices close to parity if the Nation maintains substantially full employment at adequate wages and expands its international trade; (3) Marketing of perishable foods will be aided by wider use of frozen foods and air transportation, the facilities for which will be available from military equipment; (4) If surplus military equipment, such as, electrical supplies and machinery, fire-fighting equipment, synthetic nitrogen plants, medical equipment, etc., is made available for the purpose, increased farm production efficiency and higher rural levels of living will result. Words of caution in the report are (1) against allowing farm land prices to continue to rise uncurbed and (2) creating a new class of distressed farmers by unwise policies for land settlement and disposal of surplus military lands to veterans and others. Single copies of this report may be obtained from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington 25, D. C.

"The need for a huge volume of forest development and restoration work" is shown in the 1944 Report of the Chief of the Forest Service. According to this report some of the most important items in the post-war forestry program are: The planting of millions of acres of trees; thorough cultivation of extensive areas of young trees; the cutting of snags that constitute a fire menace; construction of lookout towers, fire breaks, telephone lines, water holes, and other improvements needed for adequate fire protection; building of hundreds of miles of access roads to facilitate timber harvesting; reseeding ranges, and building fences and water facilities. In addition the "Full utilization of forest recreational values will require the development of hundreds of camp sites, picnic spots, organization camps, bathing facilities, ski shelters, etc.," the Chief said in his report. All this will require many workers and should furnish employment for many returning veterans. Copies of this report are on sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at 10 cents each.

Women on Veterans' Agricultural Advisory Committees.

We note that two states--Colorado and Iowa--have one or more women on their veterans' agricultural advisory committees. In Colorado the women have been placed on the committees for the specific purpose of advising wives of veterans.

"This Concerns You and Yours," is the title of an article in the January Extension Service Review, which describes one of several surveys made of 2,500 farm homes in Crawford County, Iowa, by a citizens' committee of which County Agent Paul A. Johnson was chairman. The purpose was to find out what local conditions will be when the county's 1,700 men and women in the armed services and the 1,100 in war industries return so that plans can be made to help these men get back into community life.

Some important facts brought out by the survey are: One farmer in 10 plans to retire and have his son carry on the farming as soon as the war ends; one farm out of 6 has boys who will return to farm; about 1,100 returning men can be employed on farms in the county; more than half the farms, now without electricity, plan to have it as soon as high lines are built, and 80 percent of those who answered questionnaires favor a crop adjustment and crop loan farm program.

Two other articles with post-war significance in the January Extension Service Review are "Working in a Post-war World," by Secretary Wickard, and "Help for G. I. Joe," which tells what is being done in Washington State to get ready for the time when "Johnny comes marching home."

Educational Opportunities Under G. I. Bill of Rights.

A total of 15,002 veterans of the present war were receiving education under this bill on January 31, 1945, according to the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs. About eighty percent of these are enrolled in schools of college level while 20 percent are enrolled for courses of less than college grade or for occupational training. Of the 45,137 who have requested provision for education, 39,389 have been declared eligible under the educational provisions of the G. I. Bill. Regional managers of the Veterans Administration will assist veterans interested in choosing approved educational or training institutions, and advisory groups have been set up in many major colleges and universities to give advice on the choice of courses or vocations. Application for educational benefits under the G. I. Bill may be filed by the veteran with either the Veterans Administration or at the institution he wishes to attend.

The Survey on Post-War Plans of Men Now in the Army conducted by the Army Service Forces, and mentioned in my January letter, shows that 24.75 percent of Army veterans who expect to farm after the war have no specific farm or location in mind at the present time. The survey also indicates that most of them will want small farms. The report prepared as a result of this survey, Army Service Forces, No. B-131, entitled "Soldiers' Plans for Farming After They Leave The Army," has been reproduced by the Department in summary form for general distribution. Single copies can be obtained upon request from the Office of Information.

The House and Senate Special Committees on Post-War Economic Policy and Planning will continue their work in the present session of Congress. Resolutions to this effect were passed in the Senate on January 29 and, in the House, on January 18. Some phases of reconversion from wartime to a peacetime economy already studied by these Committees are: war contract settlements, surplus disposal, public works, demobilization, and foreign trade and shipping.

A Post-War Foreign Trade Program for United States Agriculture.

A national statement on this subject has now been released by the Interbureau Committee on Post-War Programs. Plans are to print it for general distribution as soon as possible.

The Soldier Placement Program in North Dakota.

We recently received a copy of a statement by County Agent S. M. Thorfinnson of Sargent County, North Dakota, entitled "Community Organization for Returning War Veterans and Other Rural Youth" which he gave before the December, 1944, Conference of Wisconsin Extension Workers. He emphasizes the importance of the entire community considering their post-war problems and making plans to help the returning veterans. He believes that the home folks can best understand and help their returning boys if they are prepared, first, with the right attitude, and second, with concrete plans. He describes the Soldier Placement Program in North Dakota which began as a "grass roots" study of the post-war problems of a rural township of 59 families. Agent Thorfinnson explains how the program was developed without a preconceived program but how the community tackled the job of discovering their problems and the solution to them.

British Post-War Agricultural Policy.

Although the British Government has not announced a definite long-term agricultural policy for the post-war years, considerable work and thinking has been done by public officials toward the establishment of such a policy. According to the main article of the February issue of "Foreign Agriculture," a program agreed upon by several of the most influential farm groups at a conference in London May 5, 1944, under the auspices of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, "calls for prices that will yield a reasonable return to producers, as well as capital and agricultural labor; an efficient and healthy British agriculture that will produce the foodstuffs which the country is fitted to provide and which are most required to satisfy nutritional needs; and international and imperial cooperation in the 'orderly regulation of production and marketing'".

Post-War prospects for frozen foods are bright according to Vera Greaves, nutrition specialist at the California Extension Service and Mildred Boggs, USDA chemist at the Western Regional Research Laboratory. As soon as wartime restrictions are relaxed, manufacturers are planning to produce more home, farm, and retail store units for freezing and storing frozen foods, including many newly developed products, they predict. Many vegetables not previously frozen, fruit juices, boned meats, ready-to-cook poultry, fish and many other cooked dishes are some of the frozen products which will save restaurants, hotels, and the housewife much time and cooking after the war.

The Self-Serving Problem Method for Post-War Family Adjustments.

A new plan for meeting war-connected family problems will eventually be carried to 2,185 home demonstration workers in the United States by Mrs. Lydia A. Lynde, family life specialist of Extension Service, according to an article entitled "When I Come Home". . . in the February issue of Consumer Guide. These workers will in turn teach it to more than a million home demonstration club members everywhere. Clubwomen are now analyzing under the direction of home demonstration agents, 21 hypothetical problems divided into four categories of study: Adjustments Involving Returning Family Members, Adjustments of Women, Adjustments of Youth, and Adjustments of Children. They will attempt to learn through this study just what their particular troubles are and what to do about them. With this beginning it is thought this new recipe for handling post-war family problems of adjustment may spread into city districts from rural boundaries.

UCAPAWA Adopts Post-War Housing Resolution.

A resolution adopted at the Fifth National Convention of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America on December 6, 1944, at Philadelphia, affirmed the need of a program to, among other things: "Develop a post-war program of housing for agricultural workers which will give needed employment to industrial workers, make possible decent living conditions for agricultural workers and remove the health and disease hazards which are being bred in rural areas."

"So you want to be a FARMER," a feature article in the January 11 issue of The Stars and Stripes, daily newspaper of our armed forces in the European Theatre, is based on the Department's booklet, "Shall I be a Farmer?" Author Jack Caldwell points out some angles to be considered by would-be farmers now in the service and warns that there will be the usual flood of slick land swindles on unsuspecting novice farmers in this post-war period. He emphasizes the fact that leaders of tomorrow's plans are scotching any wishful dreaming that farming will take up any large amount of unemployment slack and that any attempt to force it will bring disaster not only to farmers themselves, but to countless other persons. The article reproduces four of the illustrations used in "Shall I Be a Farmer?"

Texas Boy Gets First G. I. Farm Loan.

The first World War II veteran to get a G. I. farm loan was Roy Rufus Hayes of Texas, a tenant farmer before he entered the war in 1942. The loan was closed 10 days after he applied for it, and this year he will work on his own farm for the first time. He will have 20 years to repay his loan at 4% interest. Diversified farming is called for on the blueprint that Hayes has made out for his farm operations. (USDA Press Release 380-45).

The Post-War Information Exchange, Inc., with headquarters at 8 West 40th Street, New York 18, N. Y., is making a study of the most successful methods developed by national, state, and community organizations, of using films, recordings, posters, pamphlets, speakers, radio programs and other educational media for stimulating popular interest in post-war problems. The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace is assisting with the project. A handbook on the subject is planned for publication in the summer of 1945 by the Exchange.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
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Washington 25, D. C.

April 17, 1945

To: Chairmen of Regional Committees on Post-war Programs, and Others Concerned with Post-war Programs for Agriculture

From: R. L. Webster, National Activity Leader on Information and Educational Services

HIGHLIGHTS ON POST-WAR ACTIVITIES

DIRECTOR OF WAR MOBILIZATION AND RECONVERSION issues second report.

WORK GROUP ON FARM LABOR set up by Department's Interbureau Post-war Committee.

GENERAL POST-WAR SURVEY ON AUGUSTA COUNTY, VIRGINIA, completed.

USDA AND LAND-GRANT COLLEGE POST-WAR SUBCOMMITTEES TO MEET early in May.

SEVERAL REGIONAL COMMITTEES SCHEDULE POST-WAR CONFERENCES.

THIRD INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON AGRICULTURE to be held at Caracas, Venezuela, beginning July 24.

SECRETARY WICKARD AND WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATOR JONES gave testimony on FAO constitution April 12.

A SURVEY ON POST-WAR COTTON SITUATION MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT for administrative use.

SIXTEEN COMMUNITIES HAVE POST-WAR EMPLOYMENT STUDIES UNDERWAY.

VETERAN AVOIDS A BUM STEER through advice from county agent and member of veterans' agricultural advisory committee.

Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion Issues Second Report.

In his second report to the President on March 31, War Mobilization and Reconversion Director James F. Byrnes, refers to the action Congress has already taken to continue agricultural price supports for two years after the war. The recommendation is made that Congress authorize appropriate administrative agencies to make payments in lieu of support prices when it is determined that such prices are resulting in the accumulation of surpluses. Also recommended is the enactment of legislation to bring about an orderly expansion of the present school lunch program so that all grade and high school children can participate within the next two to three years. Specific mention is made of the need for combining all of the soil conservation activities of the Department into one program, and it is urged that Congress give consideration to this problem. A very few copies of the report are available if you want one. Incidentally, a total of 10,000 copies of Director Byrnes' first report on mobilization and reconversion was purchased by the British public at a shilling a copy from

His Majesty's Stationery Office which is comparable to the U. S. Government Printing Office.

Interbureau Committee Sets up Work Group on Farm Labor.

As both the Department and the Land-Grant College Post-war Policy Committee agree that farm labor has received inadequate attention in post-war planning, Chairman Ray Smith of the Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs several weeks ago asked Dr. Carl C. Taylor of BAE to head up a work group to give special consideration to the subject. Secretary Wickard has also expressed a deep concern about farm labor problems in the post-war period and has asked that a preliminary report be submitted to him in April. Accordingly, Dr. Taylor and the members of his group are working toward that end. The members are: H. M. Dixon of Extension, H. H. Simpson of Triple-A; Carl Holly, F. B. Makover, and Robert VanHyning of WFA's Office of Labor; Glen Barton, L. J. Ducoff, and J. C. Folsom of BAE; Margaret Reid of BHN&HE; and Robert Bear of the Office of Personnel.

Post-war Outlook in Augusta County, Virginia.

A survey of Augusta County, Virginia, has recently been completed, the purpose of which was to determine the local post-war employment situation, the probable purchasing power of the county, what commodities local folks intend to buy, how much they intend to spend during the first few post-war years, and how they expect to finance such purchases. The survey was made by the Augusta County Post-war Planning Board with the assistance of the Agricultural-Industrial Relations work group of the Department's Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs and the Division of Program Surveys of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

On the basis of employment data obtained, about 30 percent more people in the county will want jobs after the war than are now employed, a large majority of whom will be returning servicemen; estimated buying power, including savings in war bonds, savings and checking accounts, totals approximately 12½ million dollars; the greatest percentage increase in demand for durable goods will be for new house construction, washing machines, refrigerators, and farm machinery; the greatest increase in expenditures for non-durable items will be vacation and travel, education, gasoline and auto supplies; and, indications are that these post-war purchases will be financed not so much from present savings as from future income and borrowing. If current expectations are carried out, 40 percent will be financed by installment and other borrowing; 33 percent from future income; and only 27 percent from bond and bank savings, and other sources.

Post-war Subcommittees to Meet May 3-5.

The 7-man subcommittee of the Department's Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs and the parallel subcommittee of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities will hold the first meeting of the joint group in Washington from May 3 to 5. Among the items tentatively on the agenda are: (1) Price Policies for Agriculture; (2) Agricultural Reconversion Problems; (3) Consumption Programs; and (4) Social Security for Farm People.

Veterans Education at the University of Idaho is the title of a 36-page bulletin that has been issued by the University giving details of the State's education program of the University's College of Agriculture. Copies of the bulletin can be obtained from the University of Idaho at Moscow.

Regional Meetings in the Offing.

Several of the regional chairmen of post-war programs scheduled meetings for April. The first one was set for April 12-13 at Portland, Oregon; the second for April 17 to 18 at Berkeley, California; and the third at Lincoln, Nebraska, April 25-26. A part of the program at each of these meetings will be devoted to a discussion of "Full Employment" and "What Peace Can Mean to American Agriculture," by Bushrod Allin and James Maddox of BAE. Another 2-day meeting/has been scheduled by Chairman T. S. Buie of the Southeast Region, one day of which will be devoted to rural health problems. April 24-25

Inter-American Conference on Agriculture.

The third Inter-American Conference on Agriculture will be held at Caracas, Venezuela, beginning July 24 and will run for approximately 2 weeks. Delegates from the 21 American republics are expected to attend. Among the major topics to be discussed are the Bretton Woods recommendations, agricultural credit, agricultural production and its adjustment to the post-war period, foodstuff and raw materials, markets and transportation, agricultural migrations in the post-war years, and improvement of methods employed in compiling and publishing agricultural statistics.

House Hearing on FAO Constitution Held April 12.

On April 12 Secretary Wickard and War Food Administrator Jones spoke in favor of this country's acceptance of the Food and Agriculture Organization's constitution at a hearing before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The President recommended its adoption when he sent it to Congress late in March. Nineteen countries have accepted or indicated intentions to accept the FAO constitution; 20 are required to make it operative. The 19 countries which have accepted are: Australia, Belgium, China, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Philippines, Poland, the United Kingdom, and Liberia.

On April 5, Howard R. Tolley, Chief of BAE and U. S. Representative on the Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture which drew up the constitution, spoke before the Academy of Political Science, New York City on FAO. Its four major objectives he set out as follows: "First, raising the levels of nutrition and standards of living of the people of the participating nations; second, securing improvements in the efficiency of the production of all food and agricultural products; third, bettering the conditions of all rural populations; and, fourth, thus contributing toward an expanding world economy."

Although FAO has no executive power it can attain its objectives, according to Dr. Tolley, by (1) compiling, analyzing, interpreting, and disseminating information relating to nutrition, food, and agriculture; (2) recommending national and international action in these fields; (3) furnishing technical assistance at the request of participating governments; and (4) receiving periodic reports from member nations on actions taken in line with its recommendations. Copies of this address may be obtained from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington 25, D. C.

A Survey of the Post-war Cotton Situation was recently made for administrative purposes by the Department which shows that nine-tenths of the cotton-producing farmers want government price supports for cotton after the war. A fourth of these farmers expect a decline in cotton demand within 2 years after the war

while four out of ten foresee an increase in production within the same period. A little more than half of them realize the possibility of an eventual cotton surplus, according to the survey which was based on interviews with 426 farmers representing all types of cotton producers.

Price support programs are favored more consistently by low income farmers than by those with higher income. A majority of both groups approve price supports as a means to control production through acreage restriction. With respect to disposal of surplus cotton, two-thirds of the farmers approve of selling the surplus below cost to needy people of this country but only a third favor disposing of surplus cotton abroad below cost.

Community Post-war Employment Studies are under way in 16 communities of the United States in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture; 28 other communities are considering such studies. In two communities which have completed the fact-finding phase, new rural industries are being considered with a view to increasing post-war employment opportunities. Of the 16 communities where studies are now under way, 8 are in the South Central region, 5 in the Midwest, 2 in the Appalachian and 1 in the Great Plains. Fourteen of the 28 communities considering studies are in the Midwest region while the others are scattered through the Southeast, Appalachian, Great Plains, and Southwest Intermountain regions.

A Veteran Avoids a Bum Steer.

In his weekly letter to Extension Editors last week Ralph Fulghum, Acting Chief of Extension Information, tells of a specific case wherein a county agent and a member of the local veterans' agricultural advisory committee steered a partly disabled veteran away from a land deal that would have saddled him with an impossible debt load. The county agent was Dan Dalrymple of Niagara County, N.Y. The young exserviceman in the case had bargained with a broker to make a down payment on a farm which undoubtedly would have resulted in a loss of the $2,000 loan he planned to get. The annual carrying charge was about $1,500, a figure that would likely have put the farm back in the original owner's hands at the close of the first year. After the situation was explained to him the young veteran decided to look for a farm purchase deal he could successfully handle.

USDA to Dispose of Surplus Farm and Forest Lands.

Under Regulation No. 1 released last week by the Surplus Property Board the Department of Agriculture will dispose of lands classified by the Board as suitable for agriculture and forests. Disposal of grazing and mineral lands is assigned to the Department of the Interior.

Factors in the land market after the war are included in "The Farm Real Estate Situation, 1943-44," Circular No. 721, issued recently by the Department. Probable high farm incomes, increased demand for farms by servicemen and war workers, and easy credit conditions are some of the factors which may bring about a land boom in the immediate post-war period, according to the authors, M. M. Regan, A. R. Johnson, and Fred A. Clarenbach, of BAE. "Land values in the longer post-war era will depend chiefly upon three factors: (1) Farm prices and incomes; (2) land earnings; and (3) interest and capitalization rates." A bibliography on real estate, including several publications with post-war significance, is also given. Copies of the circular can be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for 10 cents each.

The 1944 Report of the Secretary of Agriculture.

"With each advance of the allied forces, the tempo of the peace-planning must advance, lest when the war is over, the country fall into the pit it fell into after World War I," the Secretary asserts in his 1944 report to the President.

Almost the entire report is slanted toward the post-war outlook and aims for agriculture. Following are some of the 70 topics covered which have to do specifically with agriculture after the war: Main problems in agricultural reconversion; The foreign trade problem; World organization of agriculture; What to do about prices after the war; Rural-urban cooperation to provide employment; Farm housing problem; Planning rural public works; Main needs in post-war forest conservation; Disposal of military lands; Farming opportunities after the war; Post-war implications of wartime farm changes; Farm security program; and Maintaining wartime nutrition gains.

The part that Farm Security Administration must play in helping servicemen get started farming after the war is pointed out. As one example of its probable task, some results of a survey of 3,184 North Dakota servicemen are given. Of those who wanted to farm, 1,735 wanted to buy land. Only 371 already owned land, and only 808 owned farm equipment. Copies of this report are on sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at 30 cents each.

Funds Earmarked for Tenant-Purchase Loans to Veterans.

Section 505(b) of the G. I. Bill provides that any properly qualified veteran can get a loan under the Bankhead-Jones Act to the same extent as if he were a farm tenant. In order to give effect to this part of the G. I. Bill, the 1946 Agricultural Appropriation Bill earmarks $25,000,000 for that purpose. It is estimated that this amount will permit a little more than 4,000 veterans to get tenant-purchase (farm ownership) loans, which is assumed at the current rate of discharge to be about the number of men likely to want such loans that will be released by the end of 1946. This portion of FSA's tenant-purchase loans can, incidentally, be distributed among the states in accordance with actual need rather than on the basis of Section 4 of the Bankhead-Jones formula which requires that the amount of funds distributed to each state be based on the farm population and percentage of tenancy in the state.

Idaho Committee has Issued Several Post-war Leaflets.

The Idaho Agricultural Postwar Program Making Committee which came into existence about a year ago has made considerable progress in getting out publications that should help local people in making their post-war plans. Several of those already available are: Introduction to Postwar Program for Idaho--Agriculture, Ranges, and Forests; Range Land Objectives and Problems in the Postwar Period for Idaho; Predatory Animal Control in the Postwar Period for Idaho; and Idaho Postwar Rural Housing and Health Program. Other publications expected to be available soon, according to The News Letter of the University of Idaho's College of Agriculture, are Crop and Pasture Lands in the Postwar Period, and Watershed Protection, Recreation, Wild Life, Range Use on the Forest Lands.

Peacetime Opportunities for Farmers.

In a talk at an Agricultural Achievement Banquet at Bluffton, Indiana, on March 20, Secretary Wickard appraised the present farm situation and made some constructive suggestions as to what should be done to maintain agricultural prosperity after the war. With reference to what has been done to achieve the kind of peace farmers want, the Secretary said that "Great strides have been taken at Dumbarton Oaks, at Yalta, and at Mexico City. We can confidently expect further great strides at the United Nations Conference at San Francisco. . . . How fortunate it is that we are making plans for world security before the war ends."

In estimating how full employment in the post-war period might increase per capita consumption of certain products, Secretary Wickard said that the demand for dairy products and beef and veal could be expected to increase about 12 percent over the period just before the war with a slightly higher increase for eggs. "A gain of about 15 percent," he said, "is indicated for truck crops, and a much higher one, perhaps as much as 40 percent, for pork and lard. Among the leading non-food products, per capita consumption of wool could be expected to rise about one-third, and cotton by about a fifth, above the pre-war level." Copies of this address are available from the USDA Press Service.

"Post-war Adjustments on North Dakota Farms" is the title of a survey recently completed in North Dakota to aid in developing the post-war agricultural production pattern for the State. A report that has been written about the survey indicates that more livestock, with the exception of horses and sheep, will be raised in North Dakota after the war. More corn, fallow, hay, and pasture acreage is also expected; the small-grain acreage is expected to decrease. More hired labor will be used and less labor will be contributed by the farm family, the report shows. Improved devices for tractors will be the most important change in farm machinery and equipment. Some increase can be expected in improved farming practices as shown by the expression of 99 farmers selected at random from four counties for the study. Copies of the report, which was prepared by Olav Rogeness of the Great Plains BAE Regional Office, may be obtained upon request from Elmer A. Starch, Regional BAE Analyst and Chairman of the Great Plains Regional Committee on Post-war Programs. His address is Rudge & Guenzel Building, 13th and N Streets, Lincoln 1, Nebraska.

Supplying Facts on Land Values.

In a recent letter to all State Extension Directors, M. L. Wilson, Director of the Federal Extension Service, calls attention to letters he received from the Nebraska and Louisiana Directors telling about the active cooperation of the Extension offices in those two states in supplying factual information to rural people on present and prospective land values. In Nebraska, for instance, a series of farm-appraisal demonstrations are being held at which attendance will include representatives of Farm Credit Administration, Extension Service, Farm Security Administration, national farm loan, and production credit associations. In Louisiana a meeting was arranged with the agricultural committee of the Louisiana Bankers' Association, and representatives of FCA, several life insurance companies, SCS, Louisiana State University, the War Finance Committee, and the Extension Service. An intensive press and radio program is planned in the state to point out the dangers of buying land now if a long-time mortgage is involved.

A New Approach to Planning is the title of an article in the March issue of Extension Service Review in which Noble Clark, Associate Director of Wisconsin's Agricultural Experiment Station, reviews the report of the Land-Grant College Committee on Post-war Agricultural Policy, of which he is chairman. Contending that those called upon to present facts about post-war agricultural policy should be allowed to do so on the basis of professional independence, Professor Clark points out that the Committee, in reporting its findings, would be solely responsible for such findings. "It was never intended that the report was to be reviewed by the executive body of the Land-Grant College Association, nor did it have to be approved by the Department of Agriculture. Thus it is not an official document to be regarded with reverence by either the college staffs or Department officials. Yet each can use the report to great advantage, because it represents a synthesis of the best information available to professional students who spent a considerable amount of time and sincere effort in compiling it. Its contents should be weighed in the balance of critical study and wide discussion among farm people." The Department has taken the initiative to distribute copies of the report to its key officials in Washington and in the field, particularly those who have been assigned to work on post-war programs for agriculture. Among the many reviews of the L-G Committee's report is one in the February issue of the Journal of Farm Economics by John D. Black of Harvard University.

New York C.E.D. Plans Post-war Agricultural Survey.

In cooperation with the Agricultural College at Cornell, and the Rural Agricultural Policy Association, New York's Committee for Economic Development has made plans for getting some pertinent data on New York's 150,000 farms according to the February-March issue of C.E.D. News. Delaware County (New York) is being used as a test area for a proposed 6-step program for obtaining the desired information: (1) County Agents will cooperate with C.E.D. county chairmen and other groups in selecting the farms to be surveyed; (2) Prior to each survey the county agent will contact a community chairman and explain the program; (3) The New York State Agricultural College will supply C.E.D. approved check sheets which the county agent will help farmers to fill out; (4) Community chairmen will handle publicity for the program so that farmers and others can be familiar with its aims and purposes; (5) The County Agent will forward the completed check sheets to the State Ag College for tabulation and analysis; and (6) Upon determining the results, the College will forward them along with information about them, to county chairmen for relaying to community chairmen. One of the important ultimate purposes of the survey is to supply this necessary information to all community business interests so they can more intelligently make their post-war plans.

International Cotton Advisory Committee met in Washington for the fourth time during the week beginning April 2. The purpose of this session is to keep interested countries abreast of developments in the world cotton situation, and of suggesting practicable measures from time to time for international collaboration in the solution of world cotton problems. The Governments represented at the present conference are India, Turkey, U.S.S.R., Mexico, Brazil, Peru, British cotton exporting colonies, Egypt, French cotton exporting colonies, and the United States. Members of the United States representation are: L. A. Wheeler, C. C. Smith, and C. D. Walker of the Department of Agriculture, and L. S. Mason of the Department of State.

Veterans' Education.

At a meeting in Washington, D. C., on January 24, called by Dr. Howard A. Dawson, Director of Rural Services, and Dr. Ralph McDonald, Executive Secretary, both of the National Education Association, these factswere revealed: At the end of the war it is estimated that there will be 15 million veterans of whom 525,000 will have had a fourth grade education or less; 4 million will have had from four to eight grades of schooling; 5 million will have had from eight to twelve grades of schooling; and 5 million will be eligible for college work. A follow-up work-shop conference was held by the NEA at its Washington headquarters on February 26-28 to consider the problems of the millions of these veterans who will no doubt want further education.

One of the points stressed was that veterans' education will require courses and materials different from those now used in schools. One specific suggestion was that short, timely pamphlets and visual and auditory aids will replace long textbooks and that the preparation and exchange of teaching materials should be encouraged within the community, state, and nation. Other recommendations recognized the immediate need for more adequate counseling service and for greater community coordination toward pooling efforts in the task of helping veterans to resume their education.

Survey Shows Most Soldiers Want Their Old Jobs Back.

During the past week Chairman W. S. Middaugh of the Northeast Committee on Post-war Programs called our attention to a soldier survey sponsored by the Genesee County (New York) Committee for Economic Development which shows that a majority of the men who left the county will want to return to their pre-war jobs. Of the 1,127 men included in the survey, 589 want their old jobs back, 64 have their own businesses to return to, 78 want to go to school, 94 are undecided about post-war plans, 24 will not return to the county, 118 want to change to a new kind of work because of increased technical training, 148 have other plans, and 12 plan to stay in the service.

Industrial and Agricultural Prosperity are Interdependent.

In an article entitled "Agriculture Serves Public's Interest" appearing in the April issue of Domestic Commerce, Secretary Wickard points out that "the most important thing that can happen to farm income is for industry and business to maintain full production and employment so that farmers will have a market for what they produce." He refers to the materials needed in the construction of rural power lines, household electrical appliances, rural housing, tractors, and other farm machinery as a tremendous post-war market for the products of industry and business.

Farm Buyers Intend to Operate Them.

According to a survey recently made in the four Northwest states by the Farm Credit Administration of Spokane the most important reason for farm purchases is for operation by the buyer. About 70 percent of these newly purchased farms are to be operated as a separate farm unit by the buyer and 25 percent are additions to present holdings. Aged farmers retiring is shown as the most important class of seller with active farm operators the second most important class.

Food Transport by Air After the War.

If you're interested in the prospects for post-war air transportation of perishable farm products, three reports on the subject are now available from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington 25, D. C. Ask for The Marketing and Transportation Situation for March 1944, which has to do with post-war air transportation of fresh strawberries and tomatoes; The Marketing and Transportation Situation for August 1944, which has to do with air-transportation of lettuce; and The Use of Surplus War Cargo Planes to Transport Agricultural Perishables, issued January 1945.

Two other reports are being prepared for early publication: "Post-war Possibilities of Air Transportation," and "Seasonal Factors of Air Transportation for Florida Produce." In connection with post-war aviation in general, the Civil Aeronautics Administration predicts that 90 percent of aviation jobs open after the war will be in such industrial flying as crop dusting, seeding from the air, patrolling pipelines, and aerial photography.

Planning the Farm for Profit and Stability is the title of a Farmers' Bulletin (F. B. 1965) just issued by the Department which covers these topics: Importance of advance planning; Taking stock of resources; Choosing the crop and livestock enterprises; Combining crops and livestock in a balanced farm plan; Planning for the farm as a whole; and Aids to farm planning. In a prefatory note the author, Neil W. Johnson of BAE, states that "The insatiable demands of World War II are felt on every farm. Under the stimulation of a challenging need, of patriotism, and of price, farms are undergoing rapid changes. Some are speeding up desirable changes that we shall want to build upon in coming years. . . . These changes come because of decisions being made by the operators of some 6 million farms in this country. Future decisions can be in the right direction only if our farmers give careful thought to planning their current and longer time farming in ways that will stabilize the income-producing ability of their farms."

"Wisconsin, in Post-war Days, needs strong rural communities--communities prepared to welcome those who return, and to provide those who live in them, real opportunities--opportunities not only for earning a living but for securing adequate education, for maintaining good health, for following their religious interests, and for enjoying wholesome recreation." This is the opening paragraph of a 24-page leaflet recently issued by the Extension Service of the University of Wisconsin's College of Agriculture. The title of the leaflet is Rural Communities of Wisconsin Getting Ready for Tomorrow. It devotes a section to each of the five objectives mentioned above.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington 25, D.C.

July 9, 1945

To: Chairmen of Regional Committees on Postwar Programs, and Others Concerned With Postwar Programs for Agriculture

From: R. L. Webster, National Activity Leader on Information and Educational Services

HIGHLIGHTS ON POSTWAR ACTIVITIES

USDA AGENCIES ASKED TO REVIEW INTERESTS IN POSTWAR ACTIVITIES with a view to intensifying work on agricultural programs.

SUB-COMMITTEES OF USDA LAND GRANT COLLEGES confer on various current postwar topics.

GREAT PLAINS POSTWAR COMMITTEES DISCUSS TIMELY TOPICS: Conversion of the Wheat Belt, rural health, land tenure.

EXTENSION EDITORS DISCUSS POSTWAR RELATIONSHIPS at annual conference in Washington.

RECONVERSION OF THE COTTON SOUTH is subject of regional meetings.

POSTWAR AGRICULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT is discussed in first of a series of reports on "What Peace Can Mean to American Farmers."

DISCUSSION GUIDE ON POSTWAR TIMBER SUPPLY issued by Forest Service.

USDA Agencies Asked to Review Interests in Postwar Activities.

At a recent meeting of the Department's Interbureau Committee on Postwar Programs, Chairman Ray C. Smith asked representatives of each Department agency to review the list of postwar activities currently under consideration with a view to specifying in which of the activities each agency might actively participate. A further refinement of the request was the suggestion that each agency classify its interest as major or minor to assure that the best possible agency-representation will result in designating members to specific work groups who will be expected to immediately intensify work on postwar agricultural programs.

Activities to which consideration has already been given and others on which further study is needed by appropriate work groups are: Maintenance of full employment; International trade policies; Regional conversion; Production adjustments; Fertilizer policy and programs; Distribution, marketing services, and price policies; Conversion of marketing and processing facilities and methods; Farm credit; Crop and pasture land; Forest land; Range land; Industrialization of rural areas and agricultural-industrial relations; Rural education; Social security for farm people; Rural health; Rural housing and farm buildings; Rural electrification; Farming opportunities for veterans and others; Disposal of surplus war property; Farm labor problems; Land tenure; Nutrition; Rural public works programs; Farm cooperatives; and Land values.

Great Plains Postwar Committees Discuss Timely Topics.

Elmer Starch, chairman of the Great Plains Committee on Postwar Programs, reports that three committees of the Northern Great Plains Council have met during the past several weeks. The Committee on Economic and Social Adjustments, after a discussion of regional problems with Bushrod Allin and James Maddox of BAE, has begun to outline a program of conversion for the Wheat-Belt.

The Committee on Health met on May 17, 18, and 19 with State and Department of Agriculture representatives. Its purpose is to encourage the setting up of a health committee in each State which, in turn, will sponsor as many county health committees as possible. Mr. Starch says that "A study of the health and hospital facilities of the area is also under way, and it is hoped that an inventory can be taken within the year to establish the needs for medical equipment which may become available as surplus material." The Land Tenure Committee met the week of June 21 to prepare a statement of principles concerning tenure as it pertains to the environment of the Plains, with special consideration to public lands, checkerboarded ownership, protection of equity in case of drought, etc. Another meeting of the Council is scheduled for August 7, 8, and 9 at which water development in the Great Plains will be the main topic discussed.

Joint Meetings of Postwar Committees.

The 7-man subcommittee of the Department's Interbureau Committee on Postwar Programs and the parallel subcommittee of the Committee on Postwar Agricultural Policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities held a joint meeting in Washington from May 3 to 5. Among the more important items that were constructively discussed were: Price policies for agriculture; agricultural reconversion problems; food consumption programs; international affairs; and social security for farm people. A second meeting of the two groups was held in Chicago June 28-30, at which discussion was centered around: (1) Social security for farm people; (2) land values and public appraisal service; (3) farm labor problems; (4) postwar production adjustments; and (5) the distribution of postwar information to a greater number of farm people.

Servicemen and Veterans Interested in Wide Variety of Subjects.

Eleanor W. Clay, in charge of the USDA's Publications' Desk where servicemen and veterans ask for information about different phases of farming, reports that a wide variety of topics are covered. Here's about the way the requests run in the order of their frequency: Construction, cost and operation of cold storage lockers and home freezer units; benefit provisions of the "G. I. Bill of Rights"; chicken farming; cattle raising; citrus fruit production; construction and operation of greenhouses; part-time and subsistence farming; postwar jobs in forestry, soil conservation, and as aviators for crop dusting; homesteading, especially in Alaska; and building and managing tourist camps.

Andrews Named Acting Chairman for Northwest Region.

H. J. Andrews, Regional Forester for Region 6, is now acting Chairman of the Pacific Northwest Regional Committee for Postwar Programs. Robert W. Putnam will continue as secretary. The address of both is Box 4137, Portland 8, Oregon. Stephen N. Wyckoff, former chairman of this Region, is now Director of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station at Berkeley.

Extension Editors Discuss Postwar Relationships.

The Extension Editor Advisory Committee, which consists primarily of officers of the Association of Agricultural College Editors and other key extension editors, held another bang-up annual meeting in Washington from June 18 to 23. Of particular significance postwar-wise are the recommendations of a sub-committee of the over-all group on Postwar Relationships.

As a result of this sub-committee's recommendations, some additional emphasis in Extension information can be expected toward the objective of helping farm people to anticipate and understand their postwar problems. Some specific suggestions and recommendations include: (1) A more systematic way of using the regional postwar committees as sources of information; (2) the designation of an administrative official at each of the Land-Grant Colleges to whom all pertinent Federal documents on postwar agriculture could be channeled and made available to the Extension Editor for interpretation and dissemination; (3) careful selection by the Editors of postwar topics for publicizing such as population shifts and job opportunities, production and price adjustments, inflation control, and the reconversion of industry; and (4) the attendance of at least one Extension Editor at conferences held by the regional committees on postwar programs.

AG Extension Editors Get Timely Tips from Servicemen.

Northeastern States agricultural extension editors meeting in Boston on May 23 got down to actual cases on the question of what kind of advice servicemen wish when they consider going into farming. Four servicemen from a nearby hospital--a sailor and three marines--met with the extension editors and asked many questions regarding farming. One of these men intends to go back to his father's farm, one plans to go to college four years and study to be a poultryman, one has had experience in agricultural service industry, and the other is considering part-time farming. All of these men wanted to know where to get best information and most of them were unfamiliar with the services that a county agent could offer. Among the reasons given for wanting to farm were desire to security and individual freedom. The editors suggested some materials which are available at State and Federal levels, emphasizing that the initial place to go for information is the county agricultural agent.

North Dakota Issues Report on Medical Care and Health Facilities.

The North Dakota State Health Planning Committee, of which Extension Director E. J. Haslerud is chairman, has just issued a comprehensive report on the health situation in that State. In narrative and tabular form, it gives rather complete statistics on the number of doctors and dentists in active practice by counties; also the medical, dental, and hospital facilities available to the population of the State. The committee recommends: "In order that an effective State-wide program for the promotion of more adequate health and medical care facilities may be carried on, the State Health Planning Committee recommends the organization of County Health Planning Committees. It is considered necessary that in each county or group of counties there be a committee comprised of representatives of all the professional and lay organizations in that area, which are interested in any phase of the health or medical care program."

Meetings Held on Reconversion of the Cotton South.

Meetings at which a suggested program for reconversion of the cotton South was discussed were held by three of the Regional Committees on Postwar Programs as follows: At Dallas--South Central Region--June 12 and 13; Atlanta--Southeast Region--June 15 and 16; Knoxville--Appalachian Region--June 18 and 19. These regions cover 14 States; the Dallas meeting including Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; the Atlanta meeting, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina; and the Knoxville meeting, Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

State Extension Directors, State Experiment Station Directors, deans and heads of agricultural economics departments of the Land-Grant Colleges and others from the schools attended the meetings. The following Department representatives from Washington were at each of the meetings to take part in discussion of different phases of the subject: Mordecai Ezekiel, F. F. Elliott, Henry Jarrett, and Sherman Johnson, all of BAE, and H. H. Williamson, Chas. A. Sheffield, and Z. L. Galloway, of the Extension Service. These meetings were also attended by field representatives of other agencies such as Triple A, FS, SCS, FSA, FCA, and others. A 36-page report has been prepared on "A Conversion Program for the Cotton South." This is a preliminary draft, however, and is for administrative use only.

Occupational Briefs on Agriculture.

At the request of the Division of Information and Education of the U. S. Army, 16 Occupational Briefs on as many phases and types of farming have been prepared by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. These briefs are for use in connection with the work of the United States Armed Forces Institute, as a preliminary step in helping returning servicemen choose a suitable occupation.

Each brief attempts to answer what are considered the most important questions the veteran is likely to ask in order to know whether the field treated in the brief is likely to offer him a reasonably satisfactory future. The brief on cotton, for example, attempts to answer these questions: (1) What does a cotton farmer do? (2) What do you need to start a cotton farm? (3) Who should or should not take up cotton farming? (4) Where are cotton farms located, what do they earn, and what is the outlook? (5) What help can you get to start a cotton farm? (6) Where can you get training for cotton farming, and what subjects do you take? (7) How can the United States Armed Forces Institute help you prepare for cotton farming? (8) Where can you find out more about cotton farming and (9) What jobs are related to cotton farming?

The Postwar Readjustment Problem.

"To stimulate discussion and public understanding of the problems connected with postwar settlement" on the land, the Land Settlement Work Group of the Department's Interbureau Committee on Postwar Programs has just released a 22-page pamphlet entitled "Farm Opportunities, Prospects, Problems, and Policies. It is a summary of a longer report on the subject. The outlook for farming during the first five to ten years after the war is discussed and private and public action is suggested to avoid mistakes in readjustments that have been made after other wars. Copies of the summary may be obtained from the Office of Information.

P-W Programs in South Central Region Get the Air--15 Minutes a Week.

Several weeks ago, following his preparation of a 15-minute radio script on postwar agriculture for broadcast over station KLRA at Little Rock, Arkansas, Lippert Ellis, Chairman of the South Central Regional Committee on Postwar Programs, was asked by the KLRA station director if he would like to have a 15-minute spot one morning a week. Realizing that time, talent, and tribulation are involved in working up a good weekly radio program, Mr. Ellis negotiated with this office and Les Schlup of Extension Service and worked directly with Arkansas Extension Director Aubrey Gates, with the result that a weekly 15-minut morning program has been arranged. Miss Cleva Burks of the Little Rock Extension Office will write the scripts, with Chairman Ellis, one of the principal sources of subject matter.

Surplus Medical and Hospital Supplies.

A work group of the Department's Interbureau Committee on Postwar Programs has issued a 6-page report entitled "Disposal of War Surplus Medical and Hospital Supplies." It is contended in this report that "It is a matter of urgent concern to the Department of Agriculture that there be an equitable distribution of surplus hospital and medical supplies to help relieve the acute shortage of rural medical facilities and to improve the position of small farming communities in their efforts to secure the services of doctors and dentists who will be leaving the armed forces." Basic principles are proposed around which a program might be built to dispose of surplus medical and hospital supplies to the greatest advantage of the greatest number of people. The report is for administrative use only, available to Department personnel upon request to the Office of Information.

Report Issued on Experimental Rural Health Program.

During the latter half of 1942 the Department's Interbureau Committee on Postwar Programs sponsored experimental health service associations among farm populatio of six counties: namely, Cass County, Texas; Hamilton, Nebraska; Nevada, Arkansa Newton, Mississippi; Walton, Georgia; and Wheeler, Texas. The associations were set up and operated with the help of FSA personnel, the primary purpose being to assist local rural groups in working out plans for meeting their health problems and to get more experience in the field of health service to rural people. A rather comprehensive report has been prepared by the Farm Security Administratio on the first year of the program's operation. A limited number of copies of the report, in mimeographed form, are available from the Farm Security Administratio Washington 25, D. C.

Postwar Agriculture and Employment is discussed in the first of a series of reports to be prepared in the Department on the subject of "What Peace Can Mean to American Farmers." Probable agricultural prices, production, and income under full employment, intermediate employment, and during serious unemployment conditions are estimated by BAE specialists. The report on "Post-war Agricultur and Employment," released June 28, was prepared under the leadership of Bushrod W. Allin with the help of J. P. Cavin, O. C. Stine, Ronald L. Mighell, F. F. Elliott, James G. Maddox, O. V. Wells, and Robert H. Masucci. It can be obtained from the Office of Information; ask for Misc. Pub. No. 562.

Soil Conservation Opportunities for Returning Vets.

To those interested in soil conservation districts and their significance to veterans, attention is called to the lead article in the May issue of Soil Conservation. It is written by Melville Cohee, Chief of the project plans division of SCS and Interbureau Committee activity leader on conservation of crop and pasture lands. Answering the question "What can the District do for the veteran on conservation?" he says it can furnish (1) a map of each farm showing land capabilities of each acre; (2) recommendations as to proper land use--crops, grazing land, woodlands, etc.; and (3) technical services on the farm in connection with determination of specific need for and location of different soil and water conservation practices, such as terraces, strip-crops, drainage, etc. For veterans who may not want to farm but who may want to use experience obtained in the armed services, Cohee refers to such employment and business opportunities as building terraces and diversion ditches for farmers who want to hire this work done; the setting up of a seed business to help supply the additional thousands of pounds of grass and legume seed that is now being used each year in soil and water conservation practices; starting a nursery for the production of trees and woody type plants for use on some 30 million acres that should be retired to woodland or pasture. The author goes on to cite other supervisory and professional opportunities that will be open in soil conservation districts to many of the men now in the armed forces. Reprints of this article are available from the Soil Conservation Service, Washington 25, D. C.

Farmers Look at Postwar Prospects.

How many veterans and war workers will return to farms? Will crop controls be necessary? How will farmers spend their money? These and other questions on postwar problems were asked of representative farmers by the Department in 1944. One-third of the farmers surveyed were in the Corn Belt and one-third in the South; the other third was selected from various parts of the country. Their views on the questions asked and estimates of various specialists in the Department on probable postwar situations and problems are contained in the booklet "Farmers Look at Post-war Prospects," just off the press. Copies can be obtained from the Office of Information.

Farm Cooperatives in the Postwar Period, will be treated in a report scheduled to be issued soon by the Interbureau Committee's work group on the subject. The report will review the current status of the co-op movement; the economic and social significance and limitations of agricultural cooperation; the place of coopertives in the postwar world; and the development of co-ops in specific fields. Suggested procedures for determining co-op possibilities in local farming communities are also given.

"Electricity Comes to Rural America" a booklet prepared by REA in celebration of its 10th birthday in May, sums up what has already been accomplished in rural electrification and outlines the big job ahead. The program planned by REA could bring electricity to a large percentage of rural homes now without it in five years after line construction materials have become generally available. It would, of course, also furnish employment for a large number in the postwar period and afterwards. Copies of this 24-page booklet can be obtained from Rural Electrification Administration in St. Louis.

More Conveniences in Homes is shown to be the greatest postwar neighborhood need in Washington State according to a survey made about a year ago by the State College and county agents of the State among 7,000 of its leading farmers. In reply to the question "As you see it, what are the two greatest postwar needs in (a) your neighborhood, and (b) your trading area?" 43 percent gave home conveniences first rating; 38 percent think all-year roads most important; 32 percent, electric power lines; with smaller numbers checking irrigation, farm woodlots, and elimination of sub-marginal farms as the most important neighborhood need.

As to the greatest trading-area need these figures resulted: better marketing facilities, 45 percent; more industries, 40 percent; hospitals, 32 percent, with smaller percentages for school and community building.

Among numerous other questions designed to help postwar planners foresee problems that will grow out of a shift back to peacetime economy, one had to do with farmer-sentiment concerning community health services. The most important health problems are shown to be costs too high for family income and a shortage of community doctors. Fifty-nine percent of the farmers surveyed favor a self-supporting health cooperative and about one-fourth favor a complete tax-supported medical program. A separate leaflet on the community health phase of this survey, "Farmer Views on the Medical Situation," is available from the State College of Washington at Pullman. Ask for V Circular No. 20.

Sterling County, Texas Makes Detailed P-W Plans for Agriculture.

The citizens of Sterling County, Texas, believing ". . . that every county in the State and Nation should have well laid plans and the machinery ready to put those plans into operation for the quick and intelligent absorption of both dislocated labor and the demobilized personnel of our fighting forces" have proceeded to make detailed recommendations for improvements in the county ranging all the way from mesquite control to greater development of the city park. Some 45 specific projects are listed under ranch improvements, business opportunities, improvements for the general welfare of the community, housing facilities, churches, education, recreation, and various others. The recommendations as prepared by the local committee were published in the Sterling City News-Record.

"Have We Jobs for Our Returning Veterans?" This is the title of Number 7 of a special discussion series of pamphlets being issued by the Program Service of the Reader's Digest at Pleasantville, New York. The purpose of the program is to help communities have jobs ready for their returning soldiers. This particular pamphlet presents a down-to-earth dialogue between the mayor, the president of the local chamber of commerce, a local industrialist, a soldier, and a marine. The program is along the same line as programs in many communities of the United States in which the Department of Agriculture and the Land-Grant Colleges are cooperating.

Suggestions to Prospective Farmers and Sources of Information, a 22-page booklet recently issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, cover just what the title implies. Some of the topics covered are: economic factors in farming, operating problems, locating farms for sale or rent, sources of credit for farming, and addresses of State and regional sources of information for the benefit of prospective farmers. Copies of the booklet can be obtained from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington 25, D. C.

Responsibility for the Disposal of Surplus Farm and Forest Lands no longer neede for war purposes has been assigned to the Farm Credit Administration. In accordance with regulations pertaining to surplus nonindustrial real property as published in the Federal Register for May 29, Government agencies will have first, and State and local governments second preference in purchasing lands turned over to FCA by the Surplus Property Board. Former owners and, if the land was rented tenants, have next preference. If there are not takers up to this point, the land will be divided into units suitable for agriculture, residential, or small business purposes and will be available, first, to veterans of World War II; and second, if suitable for agricultural purposes, to purchasers who expect to cultivate the land personally for a livelihood. FCA will publicly announce the availability and locations of lands that are turned over to it by SPB for dispos

New Farm Machinery for Veterans.

Veterans of World War II who can show the need for and inability to get farm machinery to establish or reestablish themselves in farming are given a break in getting such equipment under War Food Order No. 135 which became effective June 25, 1945. Preference certificates, to be issued by county Triple-A committees, will give veterans preference over nearly all other prospective purchasers of new farm machinery. It is pointed out that many veterans were forced to dispose of their farm machinery when they were called to military service and that they have earned the right to reestablish themselves in farming without delay. The food they will be able to produce is also badly needed.

What About our Postwar Timber Supply?

Are we going to have enough timber in this country after the war? . . . Can the United States help to supply the forest products that will be needed in large quantities for postwar reconstruction in foreign countries? . . . Can our woodlands contribute to an "economy of abundance," or will timber get scarcer and more costly each year? These pertinent questions are brought up for discussion in a discussion guide, "Let's talk about . . . TIMBER SUPPLIES," recently issued by Forest Service. Copies of this 6-page folder, No. DS-26, can be obtained from Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Arkansas Issues Leaflets for Veterans and Other Prospective Farmers.

Four leaflets have been issued recently by the Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service in support of the veterans' agricultural advisory program. They are: "Let's Give Them a Fair Chance," leaflet No. 66 by Aubrey D. Gates; "Things to Look for When Buying a Farm," "Types of Farming in Arkansas," and "That Farm You are Going to Buy--How Much Debt Will It Carry?", by Ross Mauney. Copies can be obtained from the College of Agriculture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

Farm Labor Group Prepares Report.

The farm labor work group of the Interbureau Committee which was set up in April has completed a preliminary draft of a report in hired farm laborers in which it discusses such problems as: Who are the agricultural hired laborers and how many are there:; What is their economic and social status among farm and laboring people? What are their problems and how can they be solved? In its present form the report is for review and administrative use only.

"Alaska as a Farmer Sees It," an article in the summer issue of Land Policy Review, should be of interest to the many servicemen and others who have inquired about farming in Alaska after the war. What to expect in the three fairly well developed farming areas there is described by the author, Stanley L. Balloun. He says there are real opportunities for hardy pioneer-type people in Alaska but that most who have tried to homestead recently have been disappointed. The free land is back in the timber and building a road to it is very expensive. Then, it takes about three years to get the land in condition to cultivate with ordinary tools. Improved land can be bought, but it is not cheap, says Mr. Balloun.

Everglades Rubber Project Proposed for Veterans.

A plan has been proposed under which veterans would be given 25 to 50 acres in the Florida Everglades on which to plant rubber trees as another source of natural rubber for the United States. But this would be stretching the ability of the Everglades as a producer of tropical plants a little too far, say USDA rubber specialists. Over 20 years of rubber-production experiments in Florida prove that rubber trees grow slowly and yields are low. Lower wage rates in Latin American and other tropical rubber-producing areas also make any such Everglades project uneconomical, the specialists say.

Many Veterans Apply for Loans.

About 8,000 returning servicemen have applied to Farm Security Administration for help in getting started farming, nearly 3,000 of which have been approved by FSA county offices. About 6,000 wanted loans to buy equipment, livestock, seed, feed, and other items necessary to operate rented farms or those they already own. The remaining 2,000 have applied for 40-year loans to buy family-sized farms. Two hundred and twenty World War II veterans had loans approved by the first of June to purchase farms or farming equipment under the farm loan guaranty provisions of the G. I. Bill of Rights.

"Agriculture's Stake in Lowering World Trade Barriers," is the title of a 9-page mimeographed adaptation by Arthur P. Chew, of "A Post-war Foreign Trade Program for United States Agriculture," a longer report issued in April by the Department's Interbureau Group on the Sub-Project on International Trade Relationships. Agriculture's part in maintaining a high level of international trade after the war as a guaranty of peace and to insure profitable production and marketing is discussed in these publications, both of which can be obtained from the Office of Information.

"Wartime Shifts in Latin American Agriculture."

The postwar outcome of the shifts in agriculture in Latin American countries depends to a great extent upon the trade policies of the major industrial European nations, according to John J. Haggerty, author of an article of the above title in the May issue of Foreign Agriculture, a publication of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. "In general," he says, " . . . the impact of war upon Latin American agriculture has resulted in increased governmental attention to the strengthening and broadening of economic bases of the national economies, including improvement in agricultural development." Specifically, it has increased the exports of products having high wartime priority while decreasing others, and imports have been inadequate. Mr. Haggerty covers the subject under the following divisions: Mexico and Central America, Cuba and Hispaniola, Northwestern South America, Brazil, West-Coast Region, and the Rio de la Plata Region.

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October 1, 1945

To: Chairmen of Regional Committees on Postwar Programs, and Others Concerned With Postwar Programs for Agriculture

From: R. L. Webster, National Activity Leader on Information and Educational Services

HIGHLIGHTS ON POSTWAR ACTIVITIES

INTERBUREAU WORKING GROUPS PREPARE POSTWAR RECOMMENDATIONS.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN ISSUES ORDER ON EXPANDED PRODUCTION and stabilization of national economy.

SECRETARY ANDERSON TESTIFIES before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee on Full Employment Bill on August 23.

DEPARTMENT SURVEY SHOWS OPINIONS OF FARMERS ON POSTWAR PROGRAMS FOR WHEAT.

FIRST CONFERENCE OF FAO TO BE HELD AT QUEBEC, OCTOBER 16.

RURAL COMMUNITIES URGED TO SURVEY NEEDS FOR WAR SURPLUS MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL SUPPLIES.

SURVEY MADE TO DETERMINE READJUSTMENT PROBLEMS OF MEDICALLY DISCHARGED SERVICEMEN.

NORTH CENTRAL LAND TENURE COMMITTEE ISSUES BULLETIN ON POSTWAR FARM OPPORTUNITIES.

IDAHO AG. EXPERIMENT STATION ISSUES THREE FORESTRY CIRCULARS.

Interbureau Working Groups Submit Post-war Recommendations.

At the request of Chairman Ray C. Smith of the Department's Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs each of the 25 Interbureau Working Groups is preparing a summary of approximately 1,200 words setting forth findings and recommendations on post-war agricultural problems. Current plans are to submit these summaries to Secretary Anderson for his consideration in developing future programs for agriculture.

Executive Order on Expanded Production and Stabilization of National Economy.

President Truman on August 18 issued Executive Order 9599 "Providing for assistance to expanded production and continued stabilization of the national economy during the transition from war to peace, and for the orderly modification of wartime controls over prices, wages, materials and facilities. Agriculture's part in carrying out the purpose of this order is specifically set out in Part II as follows:

"During the transition to a free economy, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Federal Loan Administrator, and the Director of Economic Stabilization shall not only take all measures required by law to support prices but shall take such further measures authorized by law as may be necessary to prevent any collapse of values or discouragement of the full and effective use of productive resources."

Secretary Anderson Testifies on Full Employment Bill.

In testifying August 23 on the proposed Full Employment Act of 1945 before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, Secretary Anderson said in part: "This bill is of vital and far-reaching significance to all segments of our economy, including agriculture....That farm prosperity or depression is closely linked to the condition of the whole economy is demonstrated by the relationship between farmers' income and the level of employment from 1929 to 1944. When unemployment rose to almost 14 million workers in 1932 and 1933, net farm income dropped to less than 3 billion dollars--the lowest level since farm records were begun in 1910. When unemployment fell to less than a million people in 1943, net farm income climbed to 14 billion dollars--an all-time high...."

The fact that full employment stimulates the demand for farm products, and thus tends to maintain farm income, is not the only way in which prosperity throughout the economy aids in bringing prosperity to agriculture. A full employment economy affords needed non-farm job opportunities to rural youth, and to hundreds of thousands of small farm operators who have such inadequate farm units that it is virtually impossible for them to produce enough to maintain a decent level of living."

For some time we have had working in the Department a Post-war Committee--one of whose main tasks is to outline methods for insuring full employment in agriculture in the post-war period. If the full employment bill is passed, as I hope it will be, it is my intention to expand this work so that we shall be ready with a full and detailed program for agriculture," the Secretary stated in conclusion. For the full testimony ask for USDA Press Release 1584-45.

Postwar Wheat Policies

A comprehensive conversion program for the wheat areas is suggested in "What Wheat Policies After the War" an article in the July Agricultural Situation. Such a program, according to authors Heisig and Abrendes of BAE, would involve (1) more efficient operating units, (2) machinery and cropping systems adapted to the farm to spread overhead costs over more units of production, (3) adoption of conservation practices to provide long-time stability to farming in the area, (4) combining livestock and wheat production where conditions permit, especially in the high-risk areas, and (5) a crop insurance program with inclusive coverage. Special credit help, purchase of submarginal land, and employment service and training facilities for those who wish to find other work, would probably be needed. It might take 5 to 10 years to make the transition during which time wheat price support could be gradually withdrawn leaving prices for wheat on a free market basis. The fact that more wheat can nowbe produced than ever before brings up the possible problem of surpluses in the postwar period. Several alternative policies are suggested by the BAE economists for controlling the situation. This article is a summary of a more comprehensive report, "Wheat Production in War and Peace," recently issued by BAE.

State Extension Directors to Discuss Postwar Responsibilities.

Many matters dealing with Extension Service's postwar educational responsibilities are being discussed at regional conferences of State Extension Directors this fall. Dates and places of meetings scheduled are: Northeast--New York City, September 25-27; Southern--Atlanta, October 1-4; Midwest--Chicago, October 9-12; Western--Salt Lake City, November 8-10.

First Conference of FAO.

On October 16, the first conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization will be held in Quebec, Canada. On July 31 President Truman signed the bill providing for United States membership in FAO. Twenty-seven nations have now accepted its constitution and can send delegates to the conference. All of the 44 governments represented on the United Nations Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture have been notified of the first conference, and it is expected that some who have not already agreed to the FAO constitution will do so before Oct. 16.

The Interim Commission will formally establish FAO and appoint its Director-General, after which the Commission will be automatically dissolved. An initial program of work to be undertaken by FAO will be adopted by the conference, the policy-making body of FAO. It will convene at least once a year and will have an executive committee of 9 to 15 members. Its international secretariat will carry on the technical work of the organization. A fact sheet on FAO has been prepared by the Interim Commission for wide distribution. Copies are available in the Office of Information.

A plan of international collaboration to deal with the critical problem of the world's wood supply has already been recommended to the Interim Commission by its technical committee on forestry and primary forest products. This plan, which it is estimated would give employment to millions of people, will probably be considered at the first conference.

What Farmers Think About Postwar Programs for Wheat

Since wheat prices are to be supported under existing legislation at 90 percent of parity for two years after the war, more wheat may be grown than can be marketed profitably. In an effort to learn what farmers would prefer the Government to do if a surplus of wheat develops, the Department has made a survey among representative farmers in the three main wheat-growing regions. An administrative use report based on findings in the hard-winter-wheat States and the spring-wheat States shows that (1) 80 percent of the farmers interviewed have not heard about the Government's commitment to support wheat prices for two years after the war; (2) a majority do not believe there is danger of a surplus during this period; (3) in case of a surplus, most of them would be willing to have the Government cut wheat acreage under an equitable plan; (4) in general, the farmers prefer limited production to unlimited production with purchase of surpluses; (5) a majority believe the Government should go on supporting wheat prices indefinitely.

Agriculture Opportunities for Airmen.

The October issue of Esquire Magazine carries an article by Gus Larson of BAE, "Air Careers for the Yanks," in which he says, "There'll be more spraying and dusting of insecticides by plane-also air seeding and fertilizing. And that means opportunities for pilots, small businesses, and for other jobs that go with keeping planes in the air. Right now there are about thirty-five spray and dust companies in business. And farmers, ranchers, and Uncle Sam are just waking up to the tremendous possibilities of going to work on the bugs who digest millions of dollars worth of vegetables and other crops each year.

War Surplus Medical and Hospital Supplies

Among the more than 4 million items of surplus war property that are or soon will be available, are included a virtually complete line of medical and hospital supplies and equipment. The policy of the Surplus Property Board is to make these materials available to communities at prices based on need rather than at cost to the Government. This policy will apply especially to communities that do not have health facilities of any kind at the present time.

At recent meetings in Washington attended by representatives of the Department of Commerce, the Surplus Property Board, the Public Health Service, the Federal Security Agency, and the Department of Agriculture it was agreed, among other things, that every encouragement should be given rural communities that have not already done so immediately to: (1) Make surveys as to the need for better health facilities; (2) determine the kind and amount of materials needed. Since surplus war stocks include a large amount of construction materials, such as electric wiring, plumbing fixtures, cement, etc., local surveys might well take this into account if hospital or health center construction is contemplated; (3) ask their State Health Departments to help assemble evidence to justify requests for war surplus items; and (4) definitely establish who in the community will have responsibility for financial arrangements, acceptance and care of supplies or equipment obtained, and who will have proper authority to communicate with surplus property officials on pertinent problems.

The report of a work group of the Department's Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs entitled "Disposal of War Surplus Medical and Hospital Supplies," is now available for general use. As stated in my July 9 letter, this 6-page report was formerly prepared for administrative use only. Copies may be obtained in the Office of Information.

Let's Talk About Farm Leases.

Indications are that thousands of veterans and war workers will want to take up farming for their peacetime vocation. In view of the fact that many of them are inexperienced, they may want to rent farms until they are in the position to buy. In an effort to point out the importance of better rental arrangements between these prospective tenants and their landlords, an 8-page discussion guide on the subject has just been issued. Copies can be obtained from the Office of Information. Ask for DS-27, "Let's Talk About Farm Leases and How They Can Be Improved."

Veterans Plans for Farming

Veterans counseled at Army hospitals and Separation Centers during July who expect to farm totaled 8,555; those who had problems to discuss about farming totaled 7,654. Of all veterans discharged from the Army during July, 6.1 percent told counselors they plan to farm. Of those who had returned from overseas, 5.8 percent expect to farm as compared with 8.7 percent who had been stationed in the United States. More than 14 percent of all veterans discharged during July were undecided about their future plans.

Readjustment Problems of Disabled Veterans.

The Department recently completed a survey of approximately 300 medically discharged servicemen to determine what some of the problems might be in helping these men get readjusted to civilian life. Of those interviewed, about half had been discharged for physical disability and half for neuropsychiatric causes. About 90 percent of these veterans thought military service had changed them; of this number 37 considered the change undesirable and 22 percent, desirable. Nervousness and irritability were usually given as the harmful results and intellectual broadening and greater maturity, the beneficial effects. Most of these veterans felt estranged from their former life and find civilians hard to understand.

Three-fourths of these men were judged to be able to hold full-time jobs. Most of those looking for work seek new jobs in line with their physical and mental condition. Most of them have had no difficulty in securing jobs. Many feel that the country owes them some privileges but a steady job is their main consideration. More than 8 out of 10 think veterans should be given preference in employment opportunities.

Secretary Anderson Points To Task Ahead.

"The Extension Service has been a powerful force in mobilizing for war. It can be equally effective in organizing for peace," Secretary Anderson states in the July issue of Western Dairy Journal. He praised the outstanding war-time achievements of the Nation's people assisted and guided by Extension Service and the more than 3,000 county agents. "But the problems which lie ahead in the postwar period," the Secretary emphasized, "will be no less challenging to the county agent, the Extension Service, and to farm people in general than the problems of the war have been. The nation cannot afford to have its agriculture wrecked after this war as it was after the last war."

Majority of Farm Homes Lack Sanitary Facilities is the subject of an article by J. D. Pope, head of the Department's Interbureau work group on rural housing and farm buildings, which appeared in the July issue of "Master Plumber & Heating Contractor," a magazine serving this industry in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut. He sums up the situation from the viewpoint of the plumber and heating contractor as follows: "It appears that substantial opportunities will exist in the post-war period for interested concerns to exercise initiative and imagination in developing and distributing improved low-cost plumbing and heating installations for farm homes and other buildings. Certainly the need is there."

FSA Loans to Veterans Up to Date.

During the year and a half ending July 31, World War II veterans received nearly 4 million dollars in FSA loans. Part of this went to 67 veterans for buying farms. Rehabilitation loans for equipment, feed, seed, livestock, family living expenses and the like were made to 2,635 veterans and some 500 obtained supplemental rehabilitation loans when their farm operations showed the need for further credit.

Warning--Land Mines!

"Returning veterans who buy farms without careful reconnaissance may find delayed action land mines blasting them into financial ruin in years to come," warns I. W. Duggan, Governor of Farm Credit Administration, in the August issue of Capper's Farmer. Mr. Duggan says that an insufficient down payment is the biggest single reason some veterans' loan applications are not approved. Inflated land values is another important reason why veterans should be cautious about farm investment at this time. Reference is made to the need for a public appraisal system through which a buyer can find out the normal value of a farm before he goes to a lender to get a loan. Lack of adequate equipment, unsuitability of the farm selected, and not being able to finance the purchase of the farm after making a down payment are other land mines veterans are advised to avoid.

The County Agent as a Land-mine Detector.

Strangely enough, many servicemen have never heard of county agricultural agents nor do they know that in practically every agricultural county of the country there is a veteran's agricultural advisory committee especially organized to give sound farm advice to men in or returning from the armed forces. Lack of this information is perhaps the main reason why we hear of too many instances of veterans investing in land that is either worthless for farming, or is of such poor quality that they have no chance of making a living from it. In an effort to get word to servicemen and veterans about the willingness of county agents and the local veterans' committees to help them make wise farm investments, M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work recently sent an appropriate 500-word release to various publications that are widely read by servicemen and veterans, in which he points out that "All the land mines aren't on the war front." This is contained in USDA Release 1412-45. Copies are available in the Office of Information.

"The Peoples' Purse and Full Employment" is the title of a book written by Paul L. Vogt of BAE's Division of Program Study and Discussion, which is scheduled to be off the press sometime this month. In it, Mr. Vogt stresses the need for adequate employment rather than merely full employment, a system of credit for new enterprises and expansion of the social security program, among other governmental measures. The publisher of this 48-page book is the Island Workshop Press Co-op,, Inc., 470 West 24th Street, New York 11, N.Y. It will retail for 75 cents.

Hall Now Chairman for Pacific Northwest Region.

J. A. Hall, who has succeeded S. N. Wyckoff as Director of the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, also succeeds him as Chairman of the Regional Committe on Post-war programs. His address is U. S. Courthouse, Portland, Oregon.

Agriculture's Part in the War.

An "Abridged Chronology of Agriculture's Part in the War" revised as of August 20,1945, is available upon request to the author, T. Swann Harding, USDA Office of Information. It briefly records significant actions that have been taken by the Department of Agriculture since May 1940.

"Farming Opportunities After the War in the North Central Region" is the title of a 17-page bulletin recently prepared for the Land Tenure Committee of that region. It contains a bibliography of publications from the Agricultural Colleges in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, S. Dakota, and N. Dakota, and some from the Department of Agriculture. It also contains a summary of the more important points discussed in the publications. Individual requests for this publication from the North Central BAE Region can likely be filled by Gladwin E. Young, Agricultural Analyst, 623 North 2nd Street, Milwaukee 3, Wisconsin.

Idaho Issues Three Postwar Forestry Circulars.

Three circulars in the post-war-program-for-Idaho series have recently been issued by the Agricultural Experiment Station of the State University. Circular No. 99, "Timber Production of the Forest Lands," stresses the economic and social importance of Idaho's forest lands; Circular No. 100 suggests postwar objectives for farm woodlands and No. 101, deals with watershed protection, recreation, wildlife, and range use of the State's forest lands. Copies may be secured from county agricultural extension agents or from the Director, University of Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station, Moscow.

Jobs for All in Wisconsin.

Unemployment is about the last thing to expect in post-war Wisconsin judging by an article in the August 4 Wisconsin Agriculturist and Farmer. Post-war planning committees in more than 50 counties are getting ready to tell its homecoming citizens about job opportunities. Those who have completed studies are very optimistic. It appears there will actually be more jobs than workers. Catching up on house repairs and building new homes, both rural and urban, is high up on the list of job opportunities. Farm operators in Chippewa county alone need over 2 million dollars worth of building repairs, milk houses, silos, barns and other small buildings."

"Agricultural Cooperatives in the Post-war Period" is a 41-page report recently issued by a work group of the Department's Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs. It "aims to provide information on the outlook for agricultural cooperative development in the post-war period, together with suggestions for constructive planning," under these headings: Agricultural Cooperation Today and Tomorrow; Status and Possibilities of Cooperative Activity in Specific Fields; Suggestions for Procedure to Determine Cooperative Possibilities; and "Available Information and Assistance." Copies of this report may be obtained from the Office of Information.

Grange Plans Community Centers

In a recent letter to the 8,000 National Grange secretaries, the national headquarters has outlined a suggested program for securing surplus buildings for use as community centers. The program, if undertaken, will likely be in cooperation with county governments. Accordingly a companion letter is being distributed to all members of the National Association of County Officials by NACO's national office.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington 25, D. C.

February 27, 1946

To: Chairmen of Regional Committees on Postwar Programs, and Others Concerned with Postwar Programs for Agriculture

From: R. L. Webster, National Activity Leader on Information and Educational Services

HIGHLIGHTS ON POSTWAR ACTIVITIES

NEW POLICY AND PROGRAM COMMITTEE PLACED IN CHARGE OF POSTWAR ACTIVITIES.

PRESIDENT'S FOOD PROGRAM IS A FIRST POSTWAR JOB

FAO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS "WORLD BALANCE SHEET" at March meeting.

SECRETARY ANDERSON OUTLINES POSTWAR OBJECTIVES FOR AGRICULTURE.

NEW COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL POLICY OF THE LAND GRANT COLLEGES APPOINTED.

FARM REAL ESTATE PRICES INCREASED 11 PERCENT LAST YEAR.

POSTWAR AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE OF LAND-GRANT COLLEGES ISSUES SECOND REPORT.

INTERBUREAU POSTWAR WORK GROUPS SUBMIT FINDINGS.

FARMERS WANT MUCH NEW OR IMPROVED HOUSING in the early postwar period, BAE studies show.

New Policy and Program Committee in Charge of Postwar Activities.

Recent organization changes in the Department include transfer of program planning from BAE to a newly established Policy and Program Committee of which Secretary Anderson is chairman. As a result of this change, over-all postwar planning is the responsibility of this committee; D. A. Fitzgerald of the Office of the Secretary has been named secretary of the new Policy and Program Committee and as such will spearhead the Department's work on postwar programs. Responsibility for leadership with respect to USDA Councils is likewise assigned to the Policy and Program Committee. A question and answer piece recently prepared clarifies the responsibilities and composition of the USDA Councils. Copies can be obtained from the Office of Information.

Functions of the Policy and Program Committee as expressed in Secretary's Memorandum No. 1140 are in part those "with respect to planning transferred from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the review and evaluation of plans and programs for adapting them to changing conditions and situations. . . interbureau working groups in Washington and the field will, under activity leaders, continue to develop information and make recommendations regarding assigned phases of the Department's work."

In addition to Secretary Anderson and Mr. Fitzgerald, the Policy and Program Committee is composed of the following: The Under Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Administrators of PMA, ARA, FSA, and REA; the Governor of FCA; the Chiefs of FS, SCS, and BAE; the Directors of OFAR, Personnel, Extension Work, and of PMA's Field Service Branch; the Director of Information; the Solicitor, and the Budget Officer.

BAE has been reorganized to strengthen its statistical and economic research functions and is now responsible for general supervision and coordination of such work throughout the Department. The public discussion and study work of BAE was transferred to the Extension Service in the recent reorganization.

A First Postwar Job.

The President's 9-point food program recently launched to help prevent starvation in foreign countries may be considered necessary ground work for long-range postwar planning of any kind. Recent polls of public opinion show that Americans are willing to help fight the "war against starvation," the natural aftermath of World War II. In order that everyone may have the facts and thus be enlisted to take the necessary action to help, President Truman asked various government agencies to carry the story by all possible information channels. The Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, State, and other agencies, under the leadership of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, are doing this among other things to help in the world food crisis.

On February 16, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson directed an immediate re-examination of all Department of Agriculture production, procurement, and distribution food programs because of the food situation in wartorn countries and the shortages of feed grains in this country. A review of the world food situation, based on a comprehensive study by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, is contained in USDA Release 277 copies of which can be obtained from the USDA Press Service. A fact sheet on the President's food program, listing various sources of background information on this general subject, may be obtained from the Office of Information, USDA.

Meeting of South Central Postwar Planning Committee.

A meeting of the South Central Postwar Planning Committee, February 6 and 7 at Dallas, Texas, was called by Lippert S. Ellis, Chairman. Much of the two days was given over to a meeting of the Regional Subcommittee on Health and discussion of a rural health program, with several addresses by specialists on health, including Dr. F. D. Mott of Farm Security Administration. Other items on the agenda included: "Price Policy and Agricultural Adjustment," an address by Mr. Ellis; "Research as a Basis for Reconversion in the Cotton South," by Dr. Frank Welch of Mississippi State College; and a panel discussion on "Reconversion for the Cotton South in the Light of Present Agricultural Price Legislation and Policy."

FAO Executive Committee to Discuss "World Balance Sheet" in March.

A meeting of the 15-member Executive Committee of the Food and Agriculture Organization is being called by Sir John Boyd Orr, Director General, in Washington, temporary seat of the organization, some time during March. Various problems and the progress being made on the "world balance sheet" of major commodities, the first work outlined for FAO, will be discussed. This comprehensive picture of supply and need is being prepared country by country and commodity by commodity. In an article titled: "FAO, a Look Ahead", written for the December issue of The Agricultural Situation, H. R. Tolley, Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and Vice Chairman of the FAO Executive Committee, says that this country can expect to receive real help from FAO in expanded world trade, one of the primary aims of the organization.

FAO came officially into being at its first conference in Quebec, October 16 to November 1. Its membership now consists of the following 42 countries: Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, China, Canada, Columbia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Denmark, Egypt, France, Ecuador, Guatemala, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Czechoslovakia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippine Commonwealth, Poland, Union of South Africa, Syria, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Yugoslavia.

"Agriculture's Broad Objectives for the Postwar Period look toward a well-balanced, enduring, and prosperous economy," Secretary of Agriculture Anderson told members of the National Farm Institute at Des Moines, February 15. "Agriculture wants, first of all," he said, "to produce plenty of food at fair prices--to establish a truly high level of nutrition in the United States; second, increased efficiency not only in production but in processing and marketing farm products for the benefit of the farmer and the country as a whole; third, opportunity to accomplish a complete job of conservation of our natural agricultural resources--our soil, our water supply, and our forests; and fourth, an expanding, free-moving trade with other nations to broaden the base of our economy. Agriculture is setting its sights high for the years ahead. . .," the Secretary concluded.

The procedure for "Sale of Surplus Agricultural and Forest Lands" is explained in an FCA leaflet of that title issued late last year. FCA, the Department agency made responsible for the disposal of such land, enlisted the assistance of the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation and the Federal land banks in this undertaking. A priority schedule, a list of district offices through which disposal operations are conducted, and other helpful information are included in the leaflet, copies of which may be obtained from the Office of Information.

Army Veterans Who Plan to Farm.

Of the 686,465 discharged veterans counselled at Army hospitals and separation centers in October 1945, 76,062 expect to farm; 56,594 had problems to discuss about farming. Over 8.6 percent of all those separated plan to farm and 15.1 percent weren't sure about their future plans.

New Committee on Agricultural Policy of the Land Grant Colleges.

A new 7-man Committee on Agricultural Policy is carrying on the type of work done by the Committee on Postwar Agricultural Policy of the Land-Grant Colleges. In announcing this Noble Clark, Chairman of the Committee on Agricultural Policy, Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, praised the "fine cooperative relationship" that has existed between the former Land-Grant committee and the Department's Interbureau Committee on Postwar Agricultural Programs. The new committee is as follows: Noble Clark, Chairman; George H. Aull, Clemson College; F. F. Hill, Cornell University; O. B. Jesness, University of Minnesota; H. C. Ramsower, Ohio State University; R. I. Throckmorton, Kansas State College; and H. R. Wellman, University of California. L. A. Salter, Jr., of the University of Wisconsin is secretary of the committee.

Mr. Clark announced the appointment of the new committee at a conference of top officials of the Department called by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson some time ago. Mr. Clark addressed that group on the subject: "Strengthening Research and Education in Public Policies Related to Agriculture."

Veterans' Preference Under the Surplus Property Act.

A "handy primer" was recently prepared by Surplus Property Administration to acquaint the veteran with his opportunities under the Surplus Property Act. It was distributed to the various centers especially interested in veterans. One point brought out in a series of questions and answers is that the veteran has first choice to real estate if the original owner or a federal or state agency doesn't want to buy it. After the property is divided into appropriate units, such as family-sized farms, the disposal agency fixes what it considers a fair price for each unit. The veteran may apply for any or all units offered for sale. If more than one veteran wants the same property, the buyer will be selected by lot. Besides the questions and answers, the booklet contains a step-by-step outline of the buying procedure, a list of disposal agencies with the kinds of property they sell, and a list of disposal agency field offices. This 18-page piece entitled "The Veteran and Surplus Property" can be secured from the Information Branch, Surplus Property Administration, Railroad Retirement Building, Washington, D. C.

Farm real estate values increased 11 percent for the year ended November 1945 and 2 percent for the 4 months prior to that date, latest BAE statistics show. This brings farm land prices 60 percent above the 1935-39 level and only 25 percent below the 1920 inflation peak. Volume of sales in 1945 was above that for 1944 but somewhat below the peak reached during the fall and winter of 1943. In general, the end of the war seems to have had little effect upon the land market, BAE reports. A fourth year of high farm production at favorable prices and plentiful credit at low interest rates may cause farm land prices to go even higher. However, expectations that farm prices and income may not long continue at wartime levels and remembrance of the World War I land boom with the collapse in land values that followed may tend to curb further inflation.

Second Report of the Committee on Postwar Agricultural Policy.

The Committee on Postwar Agricultural Policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities issued its second report, for restricted distribution, some time ago. This mimeographed report reaffirms the conclusions and recommendations given in the 1944 printed report and calls attention to various things that should be considered in formulating and adopting agricultural programs. Some of them are: (1) the impossibility of physical, and therefore, economic isolation for the United States; (2) the effect of non-agricultural employment and activity on agriculture; (3) the need for reversing artificial restrictions on production and developing an agricultural price policy "for the longer run;" (4) the need for raising the living standards of rural people, with emphasis on health and education; and (5) the necessity of more public action in respect to forestry.

Better Health for Rural America.

Some problems of rural health services and what can be done about them are considered by a Department of Agriculture Work Group on Rural Health and Sanitation in a recent booklet entitled "Better Health for Rural America." It was prepared under the direction of F. D. Mott, M. D., who is the National Activity Leader for this phase of the Department's postwar work. The leaflet points out that farm people are pretty much agreed on what they want: more doctors, nurses, and dentists; more hospitals and better sanitary facilities; more preventive medicine and public health clinics; easier ways of paying their doctor bills; and all the benefits of first-class medical science. Suggestions for bringing this about will be found in the 34-page booklet; ask the Office of Information for MP-573.

Veterans' Preference Certificates for farm machinery become void if not presented to and accepted by a dealer within 15 days after the date of the issuance by a County Agricultural Conservation Committee. This point has been clarified by an amendment to War Food Order 135 of the Department of Agriculture; no time limit was fixed in the original order. Preference may be obtained by veterans on 16 groups of new machinery which include: planting, seeding and fertilizing machinery; farm plows and listers; pulverizers and stalk cutters; sprayers, dusters and orchard heaters; harvesting machinery elevators and blowers; tractors; farm wagons; domestic water systems; pumps and windmills, irrigation equipment; dairy farm machines and equipment.

Appraisal of Farming Opportunities.

An over-all appraisal of farming opportunities in the early postwar period, with the interests of returning veterans especially in mind, was a main objective of the Department's Land Settlement Work Group of the Inter-bureau Committee on Postwar Programs in 1945. The 129-page report on their findings entitled "Farm Opportunities in the United States, Outlook - Problems - Policies" is now available. A 22-page condensed version of this report with a similar title was released some time ago. Copies of either report may be obtained from the Office of Information.

Interbureau Working Groups Submit Postwar Findings.

Too late to mention in the last issue of this letter, the Department's Interbureau Committee on Postwar Programs submitted a joint report to Secretary Anderson which summarizes its findings of the past several years on a broad range of postwar activities. The report is divided into the following main points of discussion: Agriculture in Its Peacetime National and World Setting, Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment, Distribution and Consumption, Agricultural Conservation, and Services and Facilities for Rural People. An over-all plan for agriculture suggested by the Committee is as follows: The long-time maladjustments between agriculture and industry, and between different groups in agriculture, have no hope of solution except as we follow a course which emphasizes expanded national consumption and wide international economic collaboration. A limited number of copies of this 11-page summary entitled "Report of the Interbureau Committee on Postwar Programs at the War's End" are available in the Office of Information.

Opportunities for Farming in the Next Five Years.

Many who want to become farm operators during the next five years may find that such openings are not available for them, according to Hugh H. Wooten of BAE in the October issue of the Agricultural Situation. Present indications are that there may be more would-be farmers than farms and farm jobs available in this 5-year period. This will depend on a number of uncertain factors such as the continued migration of rural youth to cities as in recent years. Opportunities for farming in the next five years will come mainly from the following sources, Mr. Wooten estimates: (1) farm operator vacancies on existing farms -- 800,000; (2) release and sale of surplus military land, plus some publicly-owned land acquired for settlement purposes -- 10,000 farms; (3) creation of new farms on publicly financed irrigation, drainage, and flood control projects -- 50,000 farms; (4) some part-time farms near industrial centers and the like; (5) non-operator farm jobs of different kinds -- 500,000 to 750,000.

Pacific Northwest Committee Meets.

A meeting of the Pacific Northwest Regional Committee on Postwar Programs, called by Chairman J. A. Hall, was held in Portland, Oregon, January 14 and 15. State postwar planning chairmen and regional activity leaders in attendance discussed the status of the various postwar activities. Other items on the agenda were a panel discussion on a proposed rural works program and talks on the following subjects: United States Price Policy and Programs, Opportunities for Development and Employment in the Pacific Northwest, the Practical Relations Between Agriculture and Industry in that Region, and a discussion of how the Pacific Northwest Postwar Committee can most effectively work on rural problems during the reconversion period.

Toward Better Farm Housing.

Recent BAE studies show that farmers are very much interested in improving their homes or building new ones as soon as conditions will permit. Many of them will need some form of credit for the purpose in spite of total war savings accumulated by farmers, according to Roy J. Burroughs of BAE in The Agricultural Situation for January. Veterans in general, like many farm tenants, lack adequate financial assistance to buy a farm home although the guarantee under the G. I. Bill of Rights for real estate loans was increased from $2,000 to $4,000 some time ago.

"The improvement of farm housing cannot be achieved by any one approach," Mr. Burroughs states. Various types of loans, outright grants to the needy, technical services and guidance available to all classes of farmers, cooperative construction services, and research with State and Federal support, are some aids suggested in a program for decent, safe, and sanitary farm dwellings.

The Federal Farm Loan Act was amended recently to permit Federal Land Banks to lend up to 65 percent of the normal value of a farm, including improvements. Proposals of various kinds are being considered to help farmers in all degrees of financial condition secure better housing for their families. Providing technical assistance in planning and inspecting the construction of all farm homes is one of the most important phases of these proposals.

Farming Opportunities in Illinois.

A back-to-the-farm movement cannot be justified in Illinois, a survey conducted in 1945 by the College of Agriculture at Urbana in 29 representative counties, indicates. There will be many farming opportunities for qualified young men in Illinois but not enough to go around, judging from the replies of the 2,300 farmers questioned in the survey. New operators will be needed on only one farm in 8 during the first 5 post-war years in these counties. The outlook is much better for those who want to work on farms for a time before becoming operators. The some 2,800 young men in the 29 counties who expect to leave the farm must be replaced, and farmers want more hired workers than they had during the war. About 60 percent of the young men who went from the farm into military service are expected back on the farms. The farmers questioned are planning to do a lot of buying in the postwar years. In this is seen an opportunity for many returning veterans and war workers to obtain employment in occupations serving the needs of farmers. Results of the survey prepared by A. T. Anderson and R. C. Cross are contained in University of Illinois Circular 592.

Our forests can contribute to postwar employment, according to the new Forest Service bulletin, "Forestry and Jobs," AIS-34. The various kinds of job opportunities in public and private forests lands are discussed in some detail. The special advantages of forest work in the postwar employment program are also considered along with the benefits of well-cared-for forests to this and future generations. Copies of this 8-page booklet may be obtained from the Office of Information.

New Industries for Veterans and Surplus Farm Labor.

White House backing for industrialization of underdeveloped areas is seen in the following extract from the President's recent message to Congress by Mordecai Ezekiel of BAE, National Activity Leader for the Department on Industrialization of Rural Areas and Agricultural-Industrial Relations:

"We must encourage the development of resources and enterprises in all parts of the country, particularly in underdeveloped areas. For example, the establishment of new peacetime industries in the Western States and in the South would, in my judgment, add to existing production and markets rather than merely bring about a shifting of production. I am asking the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, and Labor to explore jointly methods for stimulating new industries, particularly in areas with surplus agricultural labor.

"We must also aid small businessmen and particularly veterans who are competent to start their own businesses. The establishment and development of efficient small business ventures, I believe, will not take away from, but rather will add to, the total business of all enterprises."

FSA Health Conference Plans for Postwar "Expansion Period."

The National Conference of Regional FSA Health Services Staffs is being held in Washington this week from February 25 through March 2. Representatives from the 11 FSA regions and Department people are thinking and planning together on the postwar "expansion period" in FSA health services. An outstanding problem recognized by the group is making farm families thoroughly aware of the health services already available for them and getting them to take an active part in health programs. Separate work groups are considering (1) ways and means for coordinating and integrating health services programs and (2) the relationships of the FSA health program to other health programs being proposed. Representatives of other government agencies concerned with health are being asked to participate in some of the sessions.

Midwest Group Discusses High-Priority Postwar Topics.

Price supports, social problems of rural people, and foreign trade were placed high on the list of topics for immediate consideration at the last meeting of the Midwest Regional Committee on Postwar Programs in Milwaukee late last fall. Special interest was expressed in the price policies to follow the Steagall amendment period, and in health, school, and housing problems of farm people. The effectiveness of the group discussion method in stimulating farmers to think about postwar economic problems and what should be done about them was emphasized. A large part of this meeting, called by Gladwin E. Young, Regional Chairman, was devoted to reports from the midwest States as to the status of postwar planning and the techniques used in educational programs. States of the Midwest Region are: Minn., Wisc., Mich., Iowa, Ill., Ind., Mo., and Ohio.